

Major signals emphasis on individual responsibility

A new policy document issued by the prime minister is intended to bolster his image as a leader with authority

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

A DETERMINED attempt by John Major to stamp his authority on the government and the formulation and execution of policy was signalled yesterday by senior cabinet ministers.

Mr Major, who in the past two weeks has taken charge of the government's efforts to reach a settlement in Northern Ireland and the fractious battle to allocate Whitehall spending, has asked ministers to draw up social policies based on the "back to basics" concept that dominated his address to the Conservative conference last month.

The prime minister and senior Tory strategists have agreed that the theme, intended to convey the idea of individuals taking more responsibility for their actions, should be an important theme of the next general election campaign.

Mr Major's advisers believe that he has come through a "horrendous" crisis of authority that can be compared with Margaret Thatcher's difficulties over economic policy in 1981 and Westland in 1986. But after three years in Downing Street, and having emerged from the turmoil over Maastricht, Mr Major will soon be seen as a survivor, they believe.

In a document sent to cabinet ministers over the weekend by the Downing Street policy unit, Mr Major calls for the adoption of policies based on "traditional values, common sense and a concern for the citizen". It says: "The prime minister wants to create a better future, not re-create the past. Respecting

ing tradition does not mean indulging in nostalgia. But it does mean challenging a number of the social orthodoxies that took root in the 1960s." Advisers said that the approach meant a hard-edged defence of the consumers of services, such as pupils and patients, and the victims of crime, and an assault on the nostrums of professional interest groups.

The principle of giving more responsibility to the individual meant that the aim of law and order policies must be to ensure that the punishment fitted the crime, that no education people were given the guidance and information they needed to become full and active citizens and that all efforts should be made to reduce people's dependency on the state.

The document put out by the Downing Street policy unit headed by Sarah Hogg heralds legislation on teacher training and deregulation in the Queen's speech on November 18. It criticises "trendy teaching methods" and urges a greater emphasis on the Three Rs while backing the national curriculum and school testing.

The paper says: "Going back to basics means expecting and respecting personal responsibility. It means relying on the good sense of families rather than politically correct absurdities."

Mr Major's initiative coincides with his apparent decision to take a more "hands-on" approach to policy making, evidenced by his involvement in settling the dispute between Malcolm Rifkind and the Treasury over defence spending; his order to withdraw proposals suggesting charging for adoption; and the lead he has taken in the search for peace in Northern Ireland.

Mr Major's preference for common sense as opposed to fashionable theories is said by ministers to be peppering much of the advice coming out of Downing Street. Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative party chairman, said in a speech in London on Saturday: "The fashionable theories we are fighting may be dressed up as progressive and fighting for the underdog, but they are not that at all. They are ways of trapping people in poverty."



Hogg: policy document attacks trendy teaching

Pension shortfall saves up problems for workers

By Lindsay Cook, Deputy Business Editor

MICHAEL Portillo's vision of a transfer from universal state pension provision for the under-40s to personal pension planning for the better-off has long been expected. The alternative, actuaries believe, would be a dramatic increase in national insurance contributions.

There are currently 3.4 people of working age to support each pensioner, but that figure will fall to 3.1 by 2010. If men's retirement age were to be reduced to 60, in line with that of women, there would only be 2.6

working people per pensioner in 2010.

The demographic problem is exacerbated for state pensions because of the "pay-as-you-go" system of funding. National insurance contributions are not invested to build up a fund for individuals to draw from at retirement. Rather, the contributions from workers are used immediately to pay the pensions of those already retired.

As the number of pensioners increases, more will have to be paid by workers to meet the demand. If men's retirement age were set at 60, national insurance contributions

would have to be increased 50 per cent by 2010. Even without a lower retirement age, there would still be a need for higher contributions.

Some analysts expect that the ceiling for national insurance contributions will be lifted from one and a half times the national average wage to two times. This would enable more to be paid into the state earnings-related pension scheme, which tops up the basic state pension, ensuring greater provision is made for old age by more people. Since employees have had the choice of whether or not to join their company pension, the number joining schemes has fallen.

The National Association of Pension Funds started a campaign recently to encourage more employees to join their company pension schemes to avoid poverty in old age.

An increase in the amount that workers have to pay into Serps would provide a greater incentive for those in good company schemes to opt out of the state top-up scheme. Employees have been able to do this since 1988, and they receive a rebate of part of their national insurance contributions, which is paid into personal pensions.

Such was the demand for personal pensions when they were launched in

July 1988 that the government had to raise its general taxation fund to meet all of the rebates and bonuses being offered to those who opted out of Serps.

The earnings rule that stopped pensioners from drawing a state pension if their earnings were high has been abolished. Until recently people could defer retirement, if their earnings would cut the state pension, and then earn a larger pension when they finally retired. Now there is no disadvantage to drawing a pension as soon as it is due.

Portillo's vision, page 1



Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister, mingling with Fianna Fail delegates in Dublin yesterday

Reynolds challenge to Major on Ulster

Continued from page 1

constitution, or any constitutional change, can be part of everything that is on the table. In the event of an agreement on the future of this island, then we... would ask the Irish people if they want to change articles 2 and 3."

In his conference speech Mr Reynolds cheered his supporters when he said he was striving for a united Ireland, but he added that such a goal could be achieved only by consent. "We must not be prisoners of history," he said. "While we continue to strive for a united Ireland based on agreement and consent freely given, we have no interest in a forced unity based on coercion."

Mr Reynolds received his biggest applause when he praised John Hume's peace initiative. Delegates had accused the government of abandoning the SDLP leader.

Mr Reynolds' acceptance that the Irish constitutional claim to Northern Ireland could be up for negotiation will be particularly welcomed by Mr Major. It was seen in Whitehall as the key point in the six principles laid down for an agreement by Dick

Spring, the Irish foreign minister, a fortnight ago.

Referring to Mr Reynolds' remarks about the need for risk-taking, British officials emphasised that Mr Major had put his personal authority behind a process whose outcome was uncertain. This week he will carry forward his own initiative in talks with James Moynihan, leader of the official Unionists, and the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists.

Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, and his party's security spokesman, said Mr Reynolds' remarks had been based on "generalities and platitudes" and exemplified "the pompous, self-righteous attitude of the Republican side."

□ New attacks: A soldier was shot and injured in the nationalist New Lodge Road area of Belfast yesterday, but an RUC spokesman said his condition was not serious. Earlier, more than 50 people were evacuated from their homes after an RUC station at Caledon near the Irish border came under attack.

Matthew Parris, page 16

Smith drops 35-hour week from menu of socialist ideals

By Arthur Leathley, Political Correspondent

THE Labour party is to distance itself from other EC socialists over the issue of reduced working hours.

After signing the socialist manifesto for next year's elections to the European parliament, John Smith, the Labour leader, pulled away from one of its prime aims of a 35-hour working week to generate jobs across the Community.

Mr Smith came under concerted attack after saying that the prospect of a 35-hour week was "one possibility" that could be considered as part of the manifesto commitment to share work more evenly.

However, the Labour leadership made clear that the party's own manifesto for next

June's elections would insist that reduced unemployment could be achieved only through growth and investment in industry and training.

Mr Smith's advisers claimed that the European socialists' manifesto, signed on Saturday by 19 party leaders in Brussels, was not binding on individual parties. "It is a menu of general principles from which parties can choose those which are relevant to their domestic situation. The 35-hour or four-day working week is much more relevant to socialist parties in other countries. It is not an issue that we believe should be dictated by government. In our opinion, it is a matter for negotiation

between the employer and employee."

Labour's manifesto will seek to repel Tory charges that the party is bound by a "socialist charter for job destruction", as David Hunt, the employment secretary, described the European socialist manifesto.

Mr Smith is content to be associated with the manifesto aim of extending majority voting in the EC council of ministers, in spite of claims that this would deny Britain a veto on issues such as immigration and taxation. Labour says it will be possible to opt out of policies decided by majority.

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Leading article, page 17

MacGregor prepares motorway toll plans

By Arthur Leathley

JOHN MacGregor, the transport secretary, is within weeks of unveiling detailed plans for introducing motorway tolls.

As soon as ministers return to the Commons later this month, Mr MacGregor is expected to raise the profile of his programme for charging drivers in an attempt to ease motorway congestion. He is expected to lay out proposals so that a white paper on road tolls can be published early next year.

His hand has been strengthened by trade and industry ministers who believe that motorway tolls could offer a significant contribution to reducing congestion and generating greater income for British companies.

The road investment programme, which has reached record levels of £23 billion this year, is likely to be a victim of Kenneth Clarke's curb on public spending in this month's Budget. Mr MacGregor believes it is essential that early planning of motorway charging should be made a government priority to ensure that road-building plans are not hindered in future years.

Transport ministers have been buoyed by recent reactions to motorway tolls by leading business groups, most notably the Confederation of British Industry. The CBI, which originally criticised plans published in a government green paper, has now welcomed the proposals as a way of ensuring long-term investment in motorways.

Bob Dunn, chairman of the Conservative backbench transport committee, said yesterday that "the principle is being accepted by more and more people, especially if they see that road-building schemes are part of the deal". But he added that "it might be better to restrict tolling to newly built roads, rather than existing motorways".

Princess may sue over pictures in the gym

Continued from page 1

cess of Wales, said that the publication was disgraceful. In a personal statement, he said: "It was in flagrant breach of the letter and spirit of the newspaper industry's code of practice. This breach constitutes dishonourable conduct for which there can be no excuse."

The commission would adjudicate shortly. "I shall expect the Mirror Group to avoid any further publication of these improperly obtained photographs."

The commission's code states that "intrusions and enquiries into an individual's private life without his or her consent, including the use of long-lens photography to take pictures of people on private property without their consent, are not generally acceptable and publication can only be justified when in the public interest."

Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers and of the Newsprinters' code committee, said: "Publication of these photographs is a flagrant breach of

the code. The attempt at justification is monumentally hypocritical. The commission must have an urgent meeting to see if the Mirror's defence is sustainable. If it is not, it must condemn it and all its executives in the strongest language."

Mr Myler defended his decision to publish the photographs, which showed a recurrence of bulimia the princess was in "tremendous shape", and said he did not expect any comeback from the palace.

He was dismissive of the views of other editors. Speaking on Radio 4's *Mediumwave* programme yesterday, he said: "There is an awful lot of hypocrisy out there, and an awful lot of jealousy."

The *News of the World* was approached, but executives never saw the photographs. Pat Chapman, the editor, said: "They are sensational peeping-tom photographs. If the *Daily Mirror* publishes more, in the face of this anger and opposition, I clearly don't give a damn any more."

Challenge to jury trial may go

Continued from page 1

count if they plead guilty early, is also under consideration.

Despite support for ending a defendant's right to jury trial in some cases of medium gravity, as recommended by a majority of the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, the move has the backing of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Barbara Mills QC, and of the Attorney General, Sir Nicholas Lyell QC.

The Lord Chancellor's Department is also keen to tackle the wastage involved in

cracked trials, which account for one in four of all trials.

But Lord Taylor, in the first debate on the Royal Commission report recently in the Lords, repeated his opposition to any change in "fundamentals". "If we are going to bin the Magna Carta as old hat, what hope is there for the Bible?" he asked.

The Home Office is also anxious not to overload the next criminal justice bill with controversial measures and is committed to pressing ahead on curbs on a suspect's right to silence. Instead, ministers are

likely to await the final report on a scheme which has been run in three crown court areas — South Croydon, Plymouth and Sheffield — where all cases have a special pre-trial review, called a "plea and directions hearing".

Interim findings have shown that although the same proportion of defendants elected trial by jury — at present the figure nationally is 35,000 — there is a significant cut in the proportion of late and unexpected guilty pleas, which would reduce the level of trials aborting at the last minute.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Defence jobs at risk from privatisation

Privatisation of the armed forces' support services is expected to save at least 20 per cent over the next few years. Market testing, which compares the cost of jobs carried out by defence ministry employees with bids from private companies, will be increased in an attempt to meet new cost-cutting targets imposed by the Treasury (Michael Evans writes).

The army is being earmarked for further manpower cuts, although not in the front line, where a reduction in the number of brigadiers is taking place. The 16 most senior generals are also expected to be reduced in number by 1994-95. The RAF, at present involved in market testing £300 million of support services, is expected to broaden its horizons to include key areas such as transport aircraft.

Labour 'ducking debate'

The Labour leadership is today accused by its former spokesman for higher education of hiding its head in the sand about financing university expansion. In an article in *The Times* Jeff Rooker says Labour is risking its reputation by ducking the debate over charging students. Statistics published yesterday show that university student numbers rose by a third between 1988-9 and 1992-3, far outstripping the rise in academic staff.

Peter Riddell, page 16; Leading article, 17; Education, 33

BBC staff face more cuts

BBC staff can expect more redundancies in the drive towards greater efficiency, the director-general said. John Birt, speaking on BBC TV's *Breakfast with Frost*, said that the workforce would fall below 20,000 but he did not know by how much. The domestic service workforce is at present 20,229, down from over 30,000 in the mid Eighties.

Families ration water

The Barnardo's charity has found that families in houses with water meters are cutting down on washing and flushing toilets to lower bills and, as a result, children are falling prey to dysentery, scabies and head lice. Meanwhile, tonight's *Panorama* on BBC1 claims that trials of the meters were a "total and utter sham" which hid the higher costs.

Concern over TV crime



Mary Whitehouse, left, president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, has sent a list of complaints to the prime minister and home secretary claiming that concern about crime merits an urgent "clean-up" of viewing. A report from the association cites 14 BBC, ITV and Channel 4 programmes it considers too violent. Networks in America have been threatened with legislation.

Lockerbie trial rejection

The two Libyans suspected of the Lockerbie jumbo bombing in 1988 have agreed to stand trial in Switzerland, their Libyan lawyer said. The United States and Britain have insisted that Libya hand over the two suspects for trial in Scotland or America. Last night a spokesman for the Foreign Office said Switzerland would not be acceptable.

Major backs Rio charity

John Major is backing a new British charity campaign to rescue the "street children" of Rio de Janeiro. Next Monday, he will host a reception for the Consortium for Street Children, set up to help children involved in begging, drug running and prostitution. The prime minister became concerned about their plight during his visit to Brazil last year.

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Blood sports opponents renew campaign with move for postal ballot of National Trust members

Saboteurs protest after hunt ban is rejected by charity

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

A SPATE of angry incidents involving huntsmen and saboteurs was reported at the weekend after members of the National Trust voted overwhelmingly against a ban on hunting on the 580,000 acres owned by the charity.

The vote in London coincided with the announcement by Michael Howard, the home secretary, that two criminal offences are to be created aimed at hunt saboteurs. Obstructing a hunt will become an offence punishable by three months' jail and a £2,500 fine. Mr Howard said the move was justified by the increase in threatening behaviour by animal-rights militants.

Yesterday, saboteurs tried to rescue a fox which had been tracked by the Hampshire hunt to a hedgerow about half a mile from the road at Bighton near New Alresford, Hampshire. A tug-of-war between hunters and protesters ensued with the animal in the middle. The saboteurs summoned the RSPCA who took the fox away for veterinary examination. It was later humanely destroyed.

John Gray, the joint master of the Ropley-based Hampshire hunt, last night said: "It was a foolhardy thing to have taken the fox from the hounds.

The saboteurs were very unkind to the fox and caused it more pain than if it had been left. Another two seconds with the hounds and it would have been killed outright. They ran the risk of being badly bitten," he added.

Other incidents involving saboteurs were reported at hunts in Lancashire, Oxfordshire and Hertfordshire.

However, the National Trust, Britain's biggest private landowner, remains the prime target of anti-hunt campaigners. The trust is committed to holding a special meeting next spring to debate whether to hold an enquiry into deer-hunting.

A separate move is afoot to force the trust's ruling council to call an extraordinary general meeting, to debate a resolution calling for a postal referendum of the trust's two million members on whether all hunting on trust land should be banned.

At their annual meeting on Saturday, held at the Wembley Conference Centre, trust members voted by 100,723 to 29,722 to leave "the ethical and moral issues of hunting to be determined by Parliament". Angus Stirling, the trust's director-general, hailed the result as an "overwhelming

endorsement" of the council's "neutral" policy on hunting.

The resolution's sponsors included Dame Jennifer Jenkins, a former chairman of the trust, Simon Jenkins, a former editor of *The Times*, Chris Bonington, the mountaineer, and Sir Denis Forman, the former chairman of Granada Television.

Peter Jackson, a former Labour MP and an anti-hunting member of the council, said yesterday he was confident of securing by Christmas the 1,100 signatures needed to force the council to hold a general meeting to debate a demand for a postal ballot on hunting. "The fact is that the council is not neutral because it is flying in the face of overwhelming public opinion by allowing hunting on its land."

Speakers at the meeting complained that "single-issue fanatics" were trying to hijack and bully the trust into banning hunting. But others argued that the trust was in breach of its duty to conserve wildlife by allowing hunting.

Lord Chorley, the trust's chairman, said he wished the anti-hunting lobby would now desist from its campaign, which was using time and money that the charity could better devote to other things.



The hunt sets off at Aldbourne, Wiltshire, with saboteurs not far behind

Huntsmen become the quarry in a rousing day's sport

By ELAINE FOGG

A CRISP November morning in the heart of the British countryside and the village of Aldbourne is teeming with industry at the start of the hunting season.

Yet this familiar countryside ritual on the Wiltshire downs is under siege as never before. Last month, Wiltshire decided to join the 28 councils banning hunting on their land. The British Field Sports Society has responded by levying hunt subscribers to help pay for pro-hunting publicity.

Members of Aldbourne's Vine and Craven hunt were celebrating at the weekend the news that the home secretary is planning to legislate to curb saboteurs.

Robin Mackenzie, one of the four joint-masters of the hunt, which has met at Aldbourne for more than 200 years, said: "Legislation along these lines is very necessary. The actions of some of the saboteurs is totally unacceptable to people following a perfectly legal pastime."

Mr Mackenzie counts his hunt lucky to have escaped the sort of violence seen last season when a 15-year-old protester was killed in Cambridgeshire in April.

"We've had their attentions from time to time, but we tend to ignore them and just get on with it," Mr Mackenzie said. "However, it is important that

peaceful protest is allowed in the same way that hunting is allowed."

Mick Tarrant, 52, a terrier man since a teenager, said: "You hear stupid stories about people bending the rules, but we would not jeopardise our hobby by doing that. It is a brave dog that will go underground after a fox."

Outside the village, WPC Debbie Ashion keeps an eye on a van containing two saboteurs. They are in radio contact with 15 more out in the fields. "There is no action we can take unless the saboteurs commit a criminal offence. I am here to monitor the situation at a distance," she said.

One of the van's occupants, Angela Smith, 19, a student at Bath University, said: "Howard's move will not deter me. The hunting fraternity is just scared that we are winning the argument."

As the hunt ended, saboteurs and hunters each claimed victory. There was no violence, only verbal abuse.

Ms Smith said: "We forced the hunt to stay in the same location and the hunt was down to just 10 or 15 riders by the end of the day. There were two sightings of a fox and both times the fox got away."

Mr Mackenzie said: "The saboteurs had absolutely no effect on the hunting." The hunt, he said, had chosen not to kill its prey.

Daughter may have known dual killer

By JENNY KNIGHT

THE man who killed Samantha Bisset may have suffocated her four-year-old daughter Jasmine because the little girl knew him, police said yesterday.

Their bodies were found last Thursday after the mother had been stabbed more than 70 times and dismembered at her flat in Plumstead, south-east London.

Det Supt Michael Banks said: "What motive could anyone have for coldly and callously killing a four-year-old child, unless she knew the attacker or witnessed the attack on her mother? It's possible she would have been able to identify him even if only by a name like 'Jim' or 'Bob'."

Miss Bisset's mother travelled from her home near Aberdeen to identify the bodies. Mr Banks said: "She is absolutely shattered. She can just about cope with the idea that her daughter was murdered but she cannot begin to understand why her granddaughter was killed too."

Neighbours reported hearing a row between a man and a woman at the flat between 10.30 and 11pm on Wednesday night. Miss Bisset, 27, had complained of a man staring through the window a week before she died.

Police said that a witness saw a man in a cream-coloured jacket with a dark collar knocking at the door of the flat at about 10.30pm on Wednesday. A couple have described seeing a man in a cream-coloured top watching the flat on October 30.

Susan Dewar, a neighbour, said yesterday that she saw a strange man watching her about a week ago: "I was doing my ironing in front of the window when suddenly I got the feeling something was wrong. I looked up and there was a man standing behind the garden wall staring at me. He had really piercing eyes."

Detectives have questioned Miss Bisset's boy friend and eliminated him from enquiries. They have also contacted Jasmine's father, who lives in southwest England.

Police resume hunt for Jersey bodies

By LIN JENKINS

POLICE will today resume the search for the bodies of a wealthy couple believed murdered and buried six years ago near their family home on Jersey.

Their son, Roderick Newell, 29, a former Army officer, will appear in court today accused of their murder. He was charged on Saturday after being extradited to the Channel Islands from Gibraltar. His brother Mark, 26, a Paris-based financier, has also been charged with murder.

Teams of local police, assisted by forensic scientists and officers from Devon and Cornwall, yesterday cordoned off areas of dense elm woods to

carry out a systematic search. The area is just yards from the beach at Greve de Lecq on the island's north coast.

Nicholas Newell, 56, a member of Lloyd's, and his wife Elizabeth, 47, disappeared after a night out with their two sons Roderick and Mark on October 10, 1987. They were declared dead by the Royal Court in Jersey in January 1991. Their estate was valued at £500,000.

Det Inspector Jim Anderson, who has led the investigation for six years, said: "I am convinced that the bodies are here. But we could face a long dig."

The area being searched with metal detectors and spades has thick undergrowth and has been landscaped since 1987 to improve water catchment on the island. Assistant Chief Officer Barry Simpson said a number of sites in the woods were being examined.

Roderick Newell, a former lieutenant in the Royal Green Jackets, fought a 15-month legal battle against extradition after being detained on his yacht off the coast of Morocco. He will appear before magistrates in St Helier today where his brother, who has pleaded not guilty, is due to make an appearance tomorrow.



Roderick Newell: will appear in court today

Car crash survivor falls to his death

By JENNY KNIGHT

A MOTORIST survived a crash only to step off a motorway bridge and plunge to his death after escaping from his wrecked car.

The accident happened on the A38M between Birmingham city centre and the M6 on Saturday night. Police believe that after getting out of the Audi Coupé, the motorist, from Aston, jumped over a railing without realising the drop.

Last night, a witness, Anthony Partridge, 25, said: "The driver climbed out and seemed very groggy and shouted: 'Report my car stolen to the police. I'm off.' He then

put one hand on the bridge railings and jumped over. I could not believe my eyes. I ran to the railings and saw the man had been hit by a car and dragged along the road."

Police have not yet named the victim.

Inspector Keith Morgan of West Midlands Police said the car went out of control on a bend and hit railings on the nearside before rebounding across the road and coming to rest on the central reservation.

"The driver climbed over the railings and fell onto the road. It may be he was so dazed that he didn't know what he was doing."

Children scrabble for success



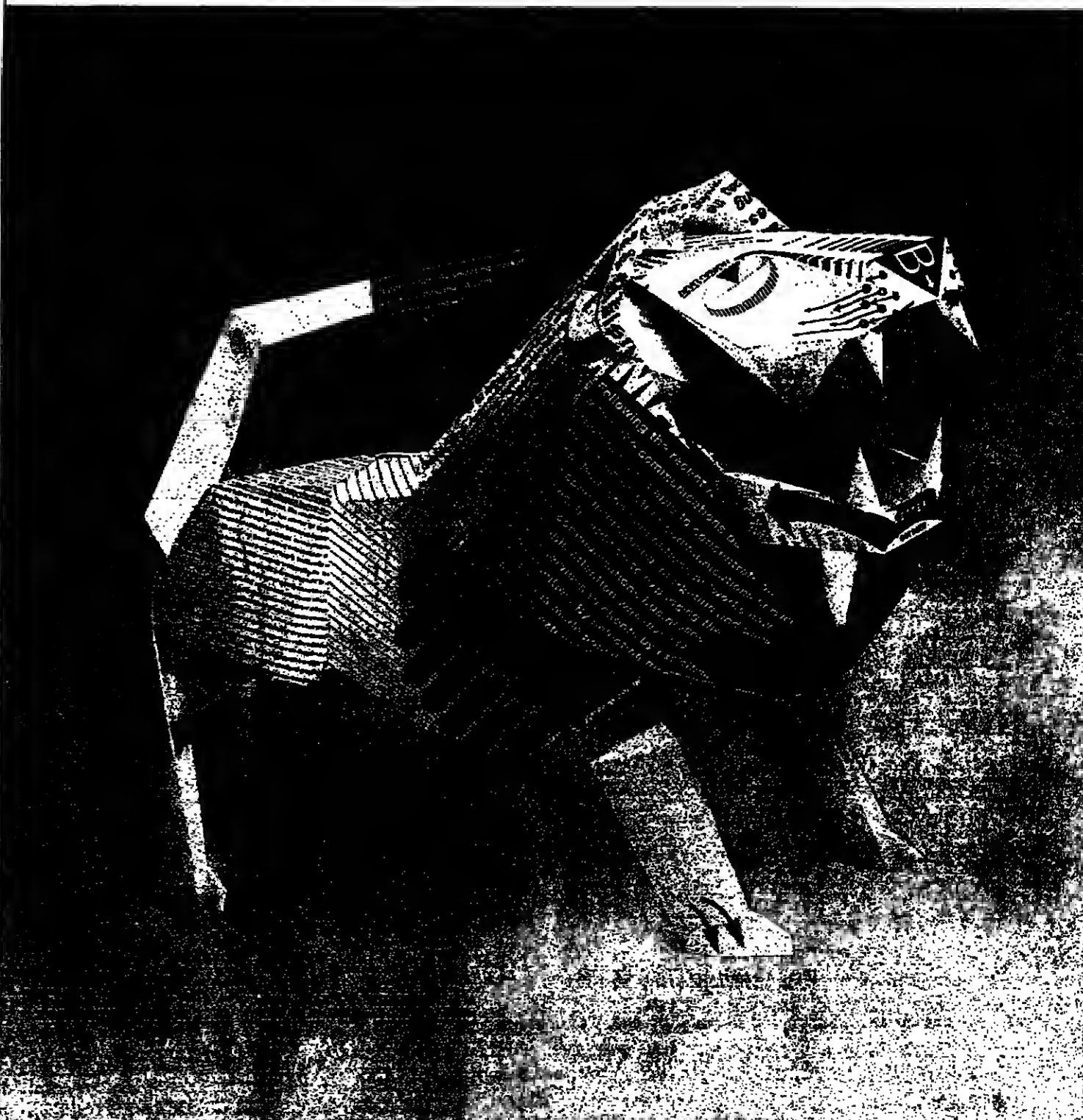
Stacey Gill, 15, from Droylsden picks her letters

ERIC Forth, the schools minister, praised the standard of English at the national final of the first under-16s scrabble championship, held yesterday at the Department for Education, London.

The winners were David Warrilow and Richard Mumford, both aged 14, from Berkhamstead School, Hertfordshire.

Mr Forth, who presented the prizes, said: "These youngsters obviously have a great love of words. I would like to see this enthusiasm reawakened in our schools."

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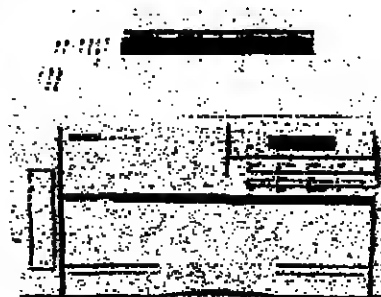
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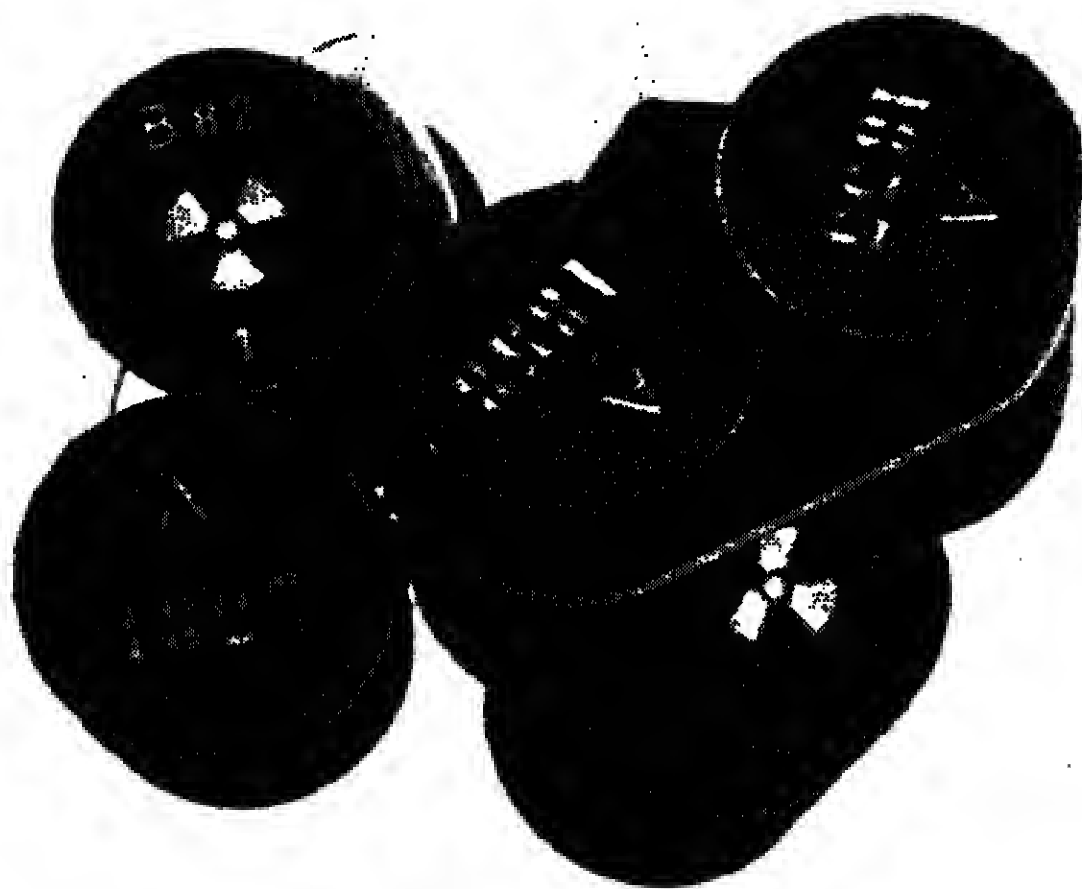
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[Britain has once again demonstrated its love of double standards by signing the Rio Declaration but coming out against the ban.]

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BMA warns doctors against 'playing God' with smokers

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

DOCTORS who refuse to treat smokers or drinkers because they disapprove of their lifestyle were condemned by the British Medical Association yesterday.

Withholding treatment from smokers on the grounds that they were likely to benefit less than other patients could not be justified, the BMA said. However, it said that where smoking or other aspects of a patient's lifestyle were likely to affect the outcome of treatment, there might be a justification.

"Some doctors are alleged to have played God and denied patients treatment because they don't like their lifestyle, but they are very few," Stuart Horner, chairman of the BMA's ethics committee, said.

Rejecting a newspaper report that the National Health Service was about to abandon smokers and drinkers, Dr Horner said pressure on doctors to treat "low risk, high benefit" patients to obtain the

best value for money must be resisted. "The only consideration for the doctor should be whether the patient is likely to benefit from the treatment," he said.

"Whether a patient smokes or not should be immaterial, unless it is likely to affect the outcome of treatment. In some cases smoking makes treatment such as heart surgery too risky, by speeding the blood clotting process, which increases the likelihood of a thrombosis, and less effective by continuing to clog the arteries."

A statement to be issued by the association's ethics committee will clarify this "grey area", he said. The move follows controversy over recent cases in which smokers have been denied treatment until they give up the habit.

In one case a 22-year-old woman from Wigan had an operation on her fallopian tubes for infertility cancelled after the surgeon discovered that neither she nor her hus-

band had stopped smoking. Evidence shows that smoking reduces the sperm count and the motility in the fallopian tubes. Stopping smoking is therefore considered the first line of treatment.

Dr Horner said that doctors might legitimately deny surgery to a patient who was overweight or had a heavy cold if the risks were judged too great. But surgery might also be legitimately denied if it was likely to be ineffective.

In another case, Harry Elphick, 47, who had a heart attack in February, was denied tests to determine whether he needed a coronary bypass at Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, on the grounds that usually the hospital carried out tests on smokers only in emergencies.

Mr Elphick subsequently gave up smoking, but died from a second attack before he could take up another appointment. The hospital said it did not know his case was urgent.



Police search the area in Runcorn, Cheshire, where the body of Dianne Easton, 15, was found, 11 miles from the club she had visited

Police in murder hunt seek two nightclubbers

By BILL PROST

POLICE were yesterday hunting the killer of a 15-year-old girl found strangled after an apparently motiveless attack.

The body of Dianne Easton, from

Warrington, Cheshire, was found by a man walking a dog near the Murdishaw estate in Runcorn. There was no evidence of a sexual assault or of robbery.

Det Supt Keith Anderton, who is leading the murder enquiry, said he

was trying to trace two men whom Dianne was thought to have met at a Warrington nightclub she been visiting with a friend. "We would like to speak to one club-goer, believed to be called Steve. He has a Liverpool accent. Although 21 years old, he

looks younger. He also has a scar on one cheek."

Detectives believe that Dianne met a young man of 18 or 19, possibly an associate of Steve's, at Chaplin's club last Friday night. They also want to interview him.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman raped by three men

Three men raped a woman after she had met one of them in a pub and been invited home.

The men told their victim, aged 20, to leave the flat partially clothed after the attack early yesterday in Kennington, south London. Police said the men, one of whom claimed to be Dutch, were aged 18 to 25 and black.

In a separate incident, a 22-year-old American student was raped at knifepoint in Bayswater, west London, after asking for directions.

BR apology

Sir Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail, has apologised after a platform supervisor wrote "It's not my problem" into the braille machine of a blind and deaf man left stranded at a Liverpool station after his train was cancelled.

School on tap

Ampleforth College is to have its own water supply after engineers sunk a borehole into a reservoir beneath the grounds of the public school in North Yorkshire.

Club shooting

A gunman shot one youth in the leg and another in the groin after an argument at a club in Balham, southwest London.

999 car hits boy

A boy aged 15 was critically injured when he was hit by a police car answering an emergency call at Margate, Kent.

Cannabis haul

Fourteen people appeared before Portsmouth magistrates after cannabis worth £1.5 million was found.

Blaze death

Clothes drying near a gas fire may have started a blaze that killed a boy aged eight in his attic bedroom in Bradford.

Bond winners

The weekly Premium Bond winners are: £100,000, number 351H 984485, winner from Kirkcaldy; £50,000, 24UT 543078, Leicester; £20,000, 24HW 043377, Kent (£10,145).

Drug cash company promises enquiry

By JEREMY LAURANCE AND MARTIN FLANAGAN

A PHARMACEUTICAL company alleged to have bribed doctors to prescribe its drugs said any impropriety by its salesforce may have been the work of "rogue elements" within the organisation.

The company, Fisons, promised a full enquiry into allegations made in *The Sunday Times* yesterday that GPs were offered £10 a patient for prescribing a new asthma drug, Tilade. Tens of thousands of pounds are also alleged to have been spent on free foreign trips and champagne receptions for doctors.

David Thomas, a sales representative with Fisons in the Midlands, said last night that he had been asked to find up to 20 doctors who were prepared to recruit up to 10 asthma patients each and prescribe them the drug. They were to be paid £10 for each patient.

"The scheme was set up locally last month to help us gain our end of year sales targets for the drug," he said. "No payments were made but



Thomas: claims money was offered to doctors

it made me feel extraordinarily uncomfortable." Mr Thomas, who said he had offered the payments to five doctors, resigned from Fisons ten days ago after seven years with the company.

Pharmaceutical companies are governed by a code of practice which forbids the offer of financial inducements to doctors to prescribe drugs. Companies are permitted to pay GPs involved in post-marketing studies who monitor patients on a new drug. Mr Thomas said the scheme for which he was asked to recruit doctors was not part of a post-marketing study. The code of practice also specifies that companies may not provide more generous hospitality to doctors than they would normally pay for themselves.

Labour last night demanded action to end abuses of the code by drug companies. David Blunkett, shadow health secretary, said that a new independent Drugs Information Service, to provide unbiased advice on the effectiveness of products, should be established "as a matter of the utmost urgency".

A Fisons spokeswoman said: "If there are any people who are doing this we think it would be a rogue element... If there is a rogue element we will find it and deal with it very severely."

Tilade has seen sales of \$10 million (£6.7 million) in the first four months it has been available in the United States. But a British specialist quoted in *The Sunday Times* said it was less effective than rival asthma treatments.

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Students pay millions to gain useless qualifications

By LOUISE HIDALGO

HUNDREDS of private colleges are running courses with unqualified staff, providing poor levels of education and offering useless certificates and diplomas.

The Times has learnt that an unpublished study, commissioned by the Department for Education and presented to officials in March, shows that one in five students at Britain's private educational institutions is pursuing a course that leads either to no qualification or to one which is not recognised by any external examining body.

The report also suggests that there are almost 4,000 private institutions offering further and higher education, a figure far higher than previous government estimates.

Recent publicity about unscrupulous practices, in an industry reckoned to earn at least £1 billion a year, has brought pressure on the government to introduce some form of regulation. The Home Office is investigating three London colleges. They all deny allegations that they have been helping foreigners to obtain student visas, enabling them to work in Britain.

More than 1.5 million students pass through private colleges in Britain every year, at least 600,000 of them from overseas. There are fears that many genuine overseas students are being lured into paying fees, sometimes in the region of £2,000 to £3,000 a year, for sub-standard training, particularly in the growth areas of computer and business management studies.

The Information Technology Training Organisation, the training body for the information technology industry, estimates there may be as many as 300 to 400 private institutions across the country running computing courses with "freelance and unqualified staff, and providing poor levels of education".

Maevie Sherlock, director of

the UK Council for Overseas Student Affairs, which represents foreign students in Britain, said: "It only takes a small number of cowboys to bring the whole British higher education establishment into disrepute. We have had foreign students come to us after turning up at establishments, having paid their fees in advance, to find the doors closed, or to be told the course they have enrolled for is no longer running. Most gain no refund."

The education department, which stopped the inspection of private colleges of further education in 1982, has consistently argued that the sector should regulate itself. But the British Accreditation Council, which recognises 82 private colleges, is among those campaigning for legal registration of private colleges.

Robin Laidlaw, the council's chief executive, said: "It is obviously damaging to the image of British education if there are private schools which are not providing a good service, nor is it fair on those schools which do invest in good quality teachers and facilities."

□ The number of students at long-established universities is at the highest level yet and has grown by a third over the past four years, according to figures published today by the Universities' Statistical Record.

There were 482,250 students in 1992-3, an increase of 9 per cent on the previous year and 33 per cent up on 1988-9. The number of overseas students was up by 11 per cent on 1991-2. The figures do not cover the former polytechnics that gained university status. Over the four years to 1992-3, the number of full-time arts students grew by 36 per cent, while there was a 30 per cent increase in those studying science subjects.

Education, page 33

Civic sculptures draw a chorus of disapproval

Life-like works are enduring the antipathy usually associated with abstracts, reports Marcus Binney

THE quality of new public sculpture is coming under repeated attack with controversies in Preston, Gateshead, Birmingham and Jersey demonstrating that people can be as hostile to life-like statues as to abstract works.

A local newspaper reported "sackfuls of mail" in protest at a sculpture in Preston, Lancashire, portraying cotton workers shot by the militia during the 1842 strike. One councillor condemned *The 12th of August, 1842* as "an ugly concrete mess in front of our beautifully restored public hall". Within days it had been vandalised, causing further embarrassment to councillors who had complained of the cost.

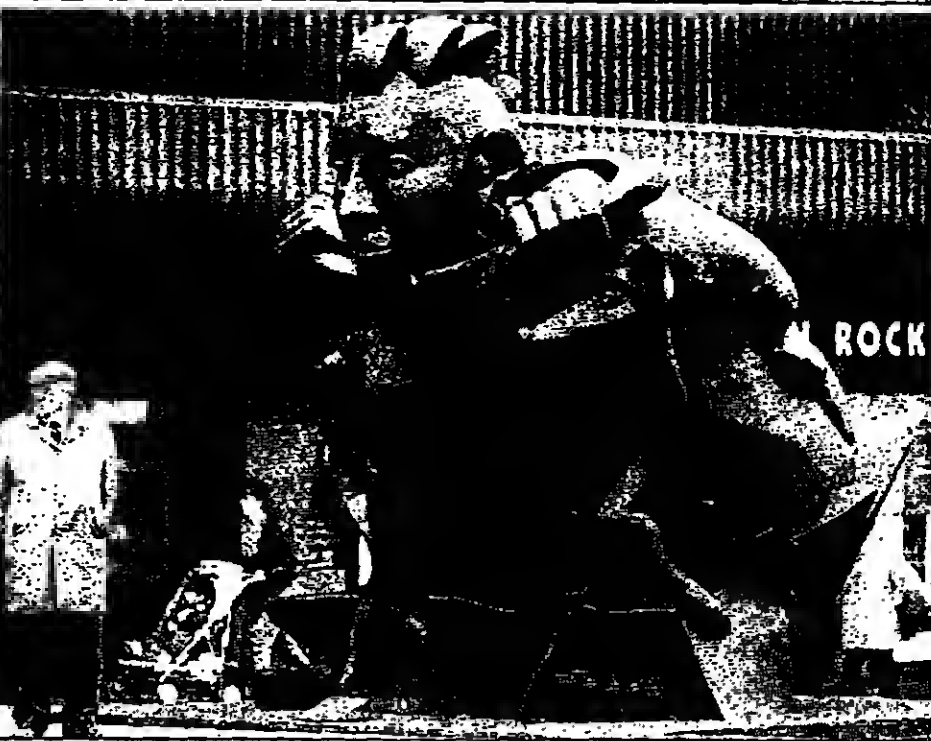
In Birmingham, widespread disgust and distaste has been the reaction to *Forward*, a mock heroic group of workers in Centenary Square by Raymond Mason.

There was a similar reaction in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, to a group called *Sports Day* by Mike Winston. The aim was to produce a sculpture reflecting local enthusiasm for sport. Mr Winston said: "I did not want to make a Steve Cunniff motion sculpture as I felt this represented only one side of sport. So I chose two sports that everybody, regardless of ability, had taken part in at school — the sack race and the egg and spoon race."

By contrast, statues of sporting heroes, such as that outside a Cardiff shopping centre of Gareth Edwards spinning out a rugby pass, have proved popular. The public prefers cheerful uplifting subjects and dislikes depressing themes.

Gordon Young, sculptor of the statue in Preston, said: "I was glad of the opportunity to carve a tragedy for a change, but most people want sculpture of optimistic content."

During the summer, there was a prolonged dispute on



Sculptures that have upset the public include *The 12th of August, 1842* in Preston, top, *Sports Day* in Gateshead, above, and *Forward* in Birmingham, right



Jersey over a proposal for a sculpture commemorating the island's liberation from German occupation in 1945. The maquette was criticised for failing to convey the feeling of jubilation when allied troops arrived and raised the British flag. The figures were said to be cast

down, like Belsen prisoners, and communities refused to contribute to the cost. Now the group will portray figures waving Union Flags.

Joe Darke, chairholder of the Public Monuments and Statues Association, said: "In Victorian times, statues were erected by local worthies who

commanded respect. Today, there is a feeling that it is the bureaucracy doing it because they think it is good for us. People do not like this."

Lord St John of Fawley, chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission, recently said: "The quality of sculpture we see is abysmally low."

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To win this fabulous prize, all you have to do is answer five questions. One will appear each day in *The Times* this week, starting today until Friday, November 12. The questions can also be heard on Classic FM. The first question is printed below in column 7 (right).

NORTHWEST'S DESTINATIONS

EUROPEAN: Amsterdam; Frankfurt; Glasgow; London; Paris

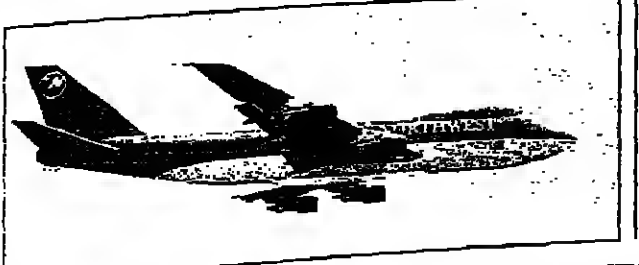
PACIFIC: Bangkok; Thailand; Peking and Shanghai, China; Fukuoka; Nagoya; Osaka and Tokyo, Japan; Guam and Saipan; Mariana Islands; Hong Kong; Manila, Philippines; Seoul; South Korea; Singapore; Sydney, Australia; Taipei, Taiwan

CONTINENTAL AMERICA: Cancun, Cozumel, Ixtapa/Zihuatanejo and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Edmonton, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg, Canada; San Juan, Puerto Rico

CARIBBEAN: Bermuda; Grand Cayman; Montego Bay in Jamaica; St. Maarten, Dutch Antilles

UNITED STATES: Alabama (1); Alaska (1); Arizona (2); Arkansas (1); California (8); Colorado (1); Connecticut (1); Florida (8); Georgia (1); Hawaii (1); Illinois (2); Indiana (3); Iowa (2); Kansas (1); Kentucky (1); Louisiana (2); Maryland (1); Massachusetts (2); Michigan (6); Minnesota (3); Missouri (2); Montana (4); Nebraska (1); Nevada (1); New Jersey (1); New Mexico (1); New York (7); North Carolina (1); North Dakota (4); Oklahoma (2); Ohio (4); Oregon (1); Pennsylvania (4); Rhode Island (1); South Carolina (1); South Dakota (2); Tennessee (3); Texas (4); Utah (1); Virginia (2); Washington (2); Washington DC (2); Wisconsin (4)

(Numbers in brackets indicate the number of airports)



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The first prize in this competition could be worth at least £1 million depending where in the world you choose to fly. For example, if you and your partner fly to Tokyo (£3,000 per person Executive Class return), Sydney (£4,126), Los Angeles (£2,900), New Orleans (£2,872), Hong Kong (£4,240) and Phoenix (£3,032) in the first two years, the cost of your flights would be over £40,000. Travel luxuriously around the world for 50 years and you could save over £1 million. Northwest has a fleet of 360 jet aircraft serving 240 cities in 21 countries, flying across three oceans and four continents.



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When you have answered all five questions, send them with your name, address and daytime telephone number to: Fly Free For Life Competition, The Times/Classic FM, PO Box 3434, London, NW1 7DW. All entries must be received by Thursday, November 18, 1993.

The winners will be picked at random from all correct entries received. The winners will be announced on Classic FM on Friday November 19, and published in *The Times* on Saturday November 20. The first prize is three pairs of Executive Class flights a year for the winner to fly to any of Northwest's destinations around the world for the rest of his or her life. The ten runners-up will each receive a pair of Executive Class tickets to any one of Northwest's destinations.

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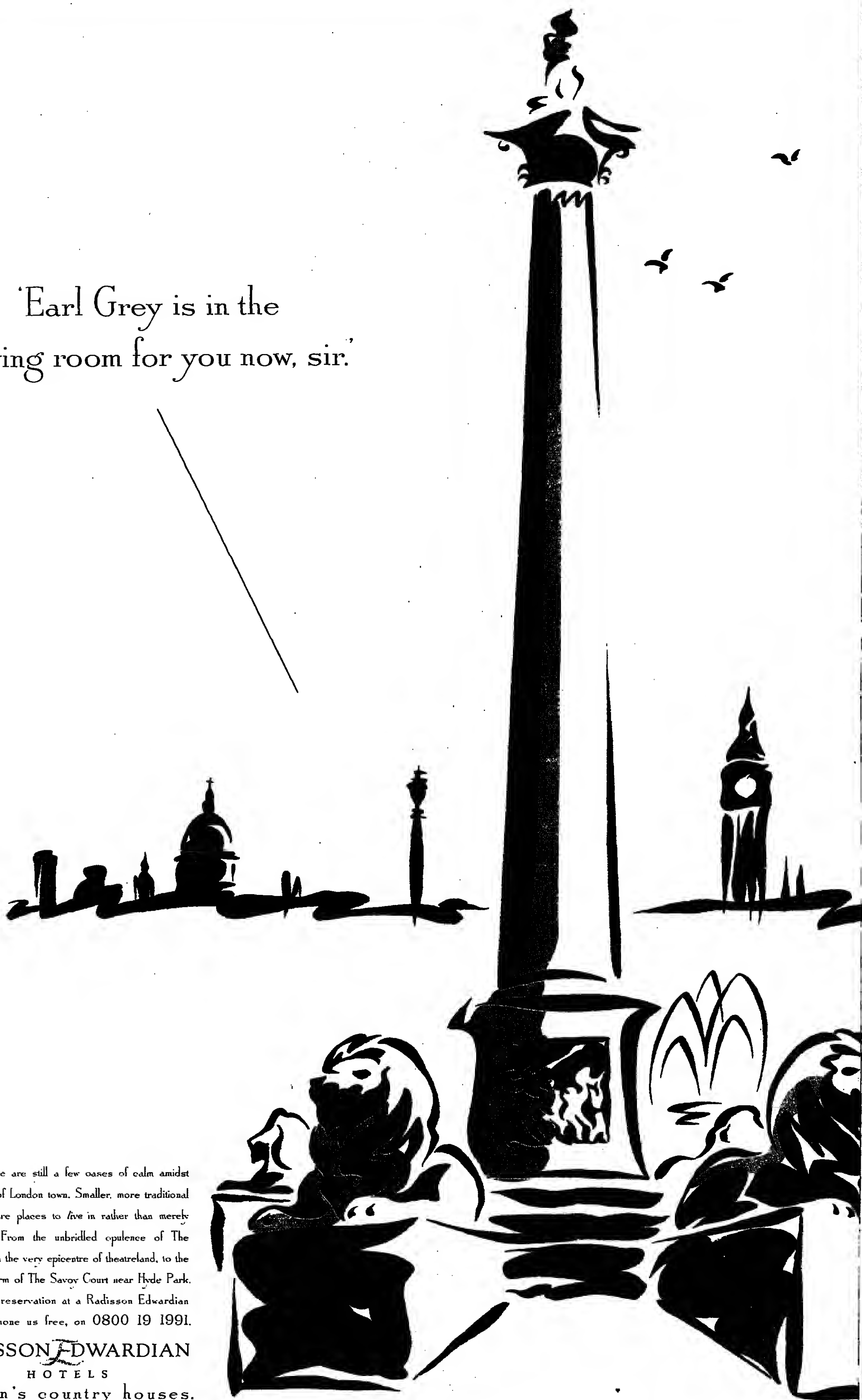
1. The prize will consist of three, annual, round-trip Executive Class flights for the winner and named partner with Northwest Airlines to any of their destinations in the Northwest system. The prize begins from January 1, 1994.
2. The prize is not transferable or redeemable for cash.
3. Only the one partner named at the beginning of each year can be taken on subsequent flights with the winner.
4. Flights will be booked through Northwest reservations office in London, and will be subject to availability. However, all flights offered will be on a confirmed basis.
5. No frequent-flyer mileage is available on these tickets.
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7. Winners must pay all applicable taxes and/or airport charges.
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10. Northwest undertakes to do its best to provide the flights requested but cannot be held responsible for interrupted flight operations due to industrial action, technical problems or similar force majeure.
11. Passengers agree to abide by Northwest's published terms and conditions of contract.
12. Flights will be offered to the prize winner up until his or her death.
13. Employees (and their relatives) of Northwest Airlines, News International and Classic FM may not enter.
14. All entrants must be over 18 years of age.
15. No financial gain may be accrued from these tickets and the tickets are non-transferable.
16. In the event of infringement of these terms and conditions, Northwest reserves the right to withdraw the right to further flights.
17. Northwest will not be held liable for the provision of overnight accommodation, alternative flights, or expenses incurred in the event of disrupted flight itineraries except when passengers on the same flight are offered these facilities.
18. No correspondence will be entered into.
19. The judges' decision will be final.
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NORTHWEST AIRLINES CLASSIC FM 100-102

TODAY'S QUESTION

1. In which country does Puccini's opera *Madam Butterfly* take place?

'Earl Grey is in the
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هكذا من الأصل

High street traders fight back after creature comforts lure hordes of spenders to retail parks

Town centres count cost as shoppers opt for superstores

By Jack Crossley and Ian Murray

PLANNERS call it the doughnut syndrome — fat shopping developments ring the outside of a town, leaving a blighted hole in the middle.

It is rife all over the country, with greenfield-site superstores taking away trade from the high streets and leaving town centres dreary and empty.

The syndrome has created a new breed of shopper — reluctant to walk but prepared to drive long distances if the car park is big enough. They shop in superstores for food and essentials, trying to spend no more than an hour a week. They also like browsing for clothes and luxuries in smaller shops in covered malls.

The practice is especially prevalent in five huge centres. Brent Cross in north London was the prototype, and it has been packed since opening in 1976. Metro in Gateshead, Meadowhall in Sheffield, Lakeside in Thurrock, Essex, and Merry Hill in the West Midlands followed in prosperous succession. There are plans for others near Manchester, Bristol and Leeds.

They could well be the last, however, because government, local authorities and traders fear that these modern temples are destroying the fabric of our towns and cities.

A conference starts today in

■ The spectre of urban blight lurks in the shadows cast by giant shopping malls ringing up record profits on greenfield sites

Dudley, site of the Merry Hill Centre, to look at ways of stopping the blight. Teams from the environment ministry and local authorities and representatives of the recently formed Association of Town Centre Management will study a survey of Dudley and see what lessons can be learnt.

In July, the government issued a planning policy guideline for local authorities, warning them to assess the impact on town centres before allowing out-of-town projects. The conference will stress the urgency of this.

Dudley is a prime victim of doughnut syndrome. Since 1987, when the Merry Hill Centre was built two miles away, luring away big name shops, the town centre has almost died.

"It's been catastrophic," one local official said. "There are vacant shops everywhere. Junk shops, low-income shops and squat shops are taking over. There is a consolidation of decline as the big names move out and are replaced by low-quality outlets."

Since 1987, the number of shops in the town has dropped from 370 to 290. About a quarter of the space in the

centre is empty even though rents have been reduced from £61 to £46 a sq ft.

In contrast, Merry Hill is thriving. Over 70 per cent of its 1.4 million sq ft are let to over 200 shops. Daytrippers arrive by coach from as far as North Wales and the Kent coast, contributing to the 50,000 to 70,000 visitors a day.

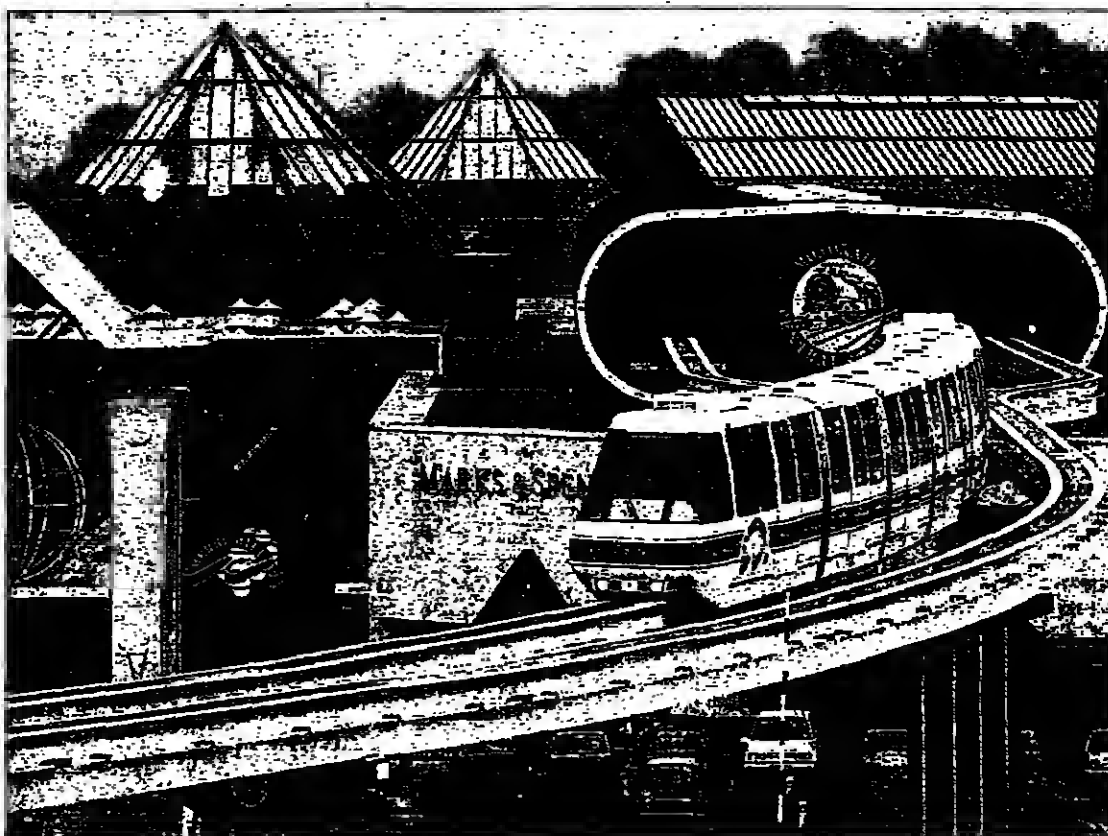
"We have provided an environment that is shopper friendly," John Watson, the centre director, says. "People like to come somewhere that is clean, with good security and where it is always dry."

Threatened town centres are trying to fight back. Michael Stansbury, chairman of the Town Centre Management Association, is commercial liaison officer in Ilford, and has had to contend with the nearby Lakeside centre.

His answer has been to build a rival covered mall in the town centre, to pedestrianise the high street and build a bypass. The scheme needed £25 million of public money and £125 million of private investment.

"It has been expensive but it worked," Mr Stansbury said. "We expected to lose 10 per cent of the town's trade to Lakeside, but in fact it is probably less than 1 per cent."

Bernard Tenant, director of retail at the British Chambers of Trade, says the situation is desperate. "The shops are part of the fabric of towns and cities and we have got to get together and build up civic pride at local level." He would like to see part of the uniform business rate spent on town centres so that the hole in the doughnut is filled with jam. "If we don't succeed, our towns will lose their hearts."



The success of the futuristic Merry Hill shopping city near Dudley has left customers with few attractions in the town's High Street



Welcome to the pleasure dome, at a price

By Joe Joseph

MERRY Hill, the shopping city on the outskirts of Dudley in the West Midlands, attracts shoppers from the Continent to its 260 stores. The 10,000-space car park becomes so full that motorists would be wise to bring a compass if they want to be sure of relocating their car.

Shopping has always been big business; now it is a tourist attraction as well. "The Heart of England tourist board considers us to be the prime tourist attraction in the West Midlands," said Lesley March, Merry Hill's marketing chief. "Last year we got nearly 2,800 coaches."

And here they come. Sylvia Keel and Vera Williams have made a 2½-hour trip from Wrexham, Clwyd. "We want a change from the small town we know," Mrs Keel said. "We've got a Marks & Spencer and that's all. I've bought a lot of money. We'll be buying Christmas presents, something special. We'll have a nice meal. Maybe even meet

some interesting people, who knows?" Vera wants to get cracking because "there's a fashion show in the amphitheatre".

There is a busload from Angers in France, carrying 17-year-old schoolchildren from the Lycée St Agnès.

They are staying in England for a week on an exchange visit. "We've been to Oxford, Stratford, Warwick and Worcester," says Willy Dessomme, one of the

students. "Now we do some shopping."

Their teacher, Marie-Henriette Gazengel, said: "They don't have places as big as this in France. I would have preferred to stay in Warwick, but they wanted to pick up a few things."

Obviously locals come. "I go to Dudley for bits and pieces, everyday shopping," Mavis Goodall from Tipton said, "but there's not the range there any more. All the shops have moved here." She says underneath carrier bags from Dixons, M&S, BHS. "We come two or three times a year. We make a list. We know exactly what we're looking for," she said.

Pamela Ballard, who runs a residential home, prefers to drive 15 miles to Merry Hill, even if it's just to pick up groceries in M&S or Sainsbury's, than to drive two miles to Wolverhampton. "I come about once a week. Often with my daughter. She lives in Worcester and she comes here four or five times a week. I often spend £300 a

visit. I do a lot of shopping here. I like it."

There are 22 million shoppers like these who visit Merry Hill every year, spending an average of £42. They stroll through the warm, clean, glassy arcades, spared the rain and protected by security guards. They like the fashion shows in the "amphitheatre", even though it is just a patch of floor between two sets of escalators. They don't mind Muzak. Business at Merry Hill is up 14 per cent on last year. So is everybody delighted? Not in Dudley, no.

"From a customer's point of view," Stephen Schwartz, manager of Trueform shoes in Dudley High Street and chairman of the local traders group, said, "something like Merry Hill is obviously a fantastic thing. But from a town-centre retailer's point of view, not so fantastic. Not to be recommended for other towns. It's a very sad thing. Dudley shoppers are loyal, but obviously they want to go where the choice is. We are

the poor relations. Where we had a thriving market town, we no longer do. Business has fallen hugely. It's at such a low ebb, Dudley can only bounce back."

At Wilkinson Home and Garden, which two years ago filled the hole left in the high street when M&S defected to Merry Hill, Linsey Mills, the assistant manager, ranks Dudley as "a derelict ghost town. About half the shops closed after the initial opening of Merry Hill. Now 30 to 40 per cent seem to be vacant. M&S, C&A, Sainsbury, Tesco, Next, Littlewoods — they've all moved out." The fills ring at Wilkinson, which sells a little to a lot of people. But Ms Mills says: "You don't get browsers. There's nothing to pull people into Dudley."

Jenny Oakes, whose Babyland children's shop has shivered from the Merry Hill effect, says landlords in Dudley have stooped to find tenants. "It's going downmarket. You have to think it's getting better. We have to stay cheerful."



Schwartz sees a bleak future for business

RETAIL DEVELOPMENTS

- At the end of the year there were 50,000 shops in Britain. Today fewer than 230,000.
- There were 32,000 butchers and 10,000 fishmongers. Now, only 13,000 and 2,000.
- First grocery superstore (more than 25,000 sq ft) opened 1964. Now 760, and could be 1,000 by 1996.
- First shopping centre opened 1964 in Crawley, West

Sussex. Now 950, taking up 15 per cent of UK retail space.

□ First out-of-town retail park opened 1982. Now 237 with another 173 in town centres.

□ A third of shopping money, £47 billion, spent in these centres last year.

□ Those aged 24-34 spent an average of £62.80 each visit. Pensioners spent £18.

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Scapegoats sought in Germany's HIV scandal

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY'S contaminated blood scandal could have been averted if politicians had heeded a critical report drawn up five years ago, it has emerged.

In March 1987 inspectors from the Pharmaceutical Commission in Koblenz made a surprise check on the UB Plasma company, which afterwards sent tainted, or at least poorly tested, blood to more than 60 hospitals in Germany and abroad. They found that the firm was ignoring several basic regulations, but nobody acted on the report and the prosecutor's office and the health ministry were not informed. The revelation, being published in today's issue of *Der Spiegel* magazine and confirmed by officials yesterday, suggests that a political scapegoat will soon be found for Germany's worst postwar medical crisis. Hospitals are still reporting as many as 150 anxious telephone calls a day.

British military authorities will start a search of medical files as soon as the German health ministry provides a comprehensive list of hospitals that were supplied with suspect blood by UB Plasma.



Scharping: hopes to unseat Helmut Kohl

British soldiers and their dependants are treated in their own military hospitals with blood supplied from Britain, but anyone involved in a car accident is usually taken to the nearest German casualty department, where they could be given local blood. The authorities emphasise that the numbers involved and the risk of HIV infection are very small.

While politicians blame politicians for their neglect, doctors are blaming politicians for over-dramatising the crisis. The health minister in turn has responded by accusing doctors of not addressing the real fears of the German people.

Passing the buck, indeed, has become the main feature of the German scandal. The Christian Democrats are accusing the Social Democrat-controlled government of Rhineland-Palatinate — whose prime minister, Rudolf Scharping, hopes to unseat Helmut Kohl as chancellor in next year's elections — for tardy reactions. Horst Seehofer, the federal health minister, told the Rhineland-Palatinate government about UB Plasma on September 9, but the company was not closed down until September 28.

Refuge destroyed: A home for Kurdish refugees in Stuttgart was destroyed by fire yesterday. In a separate incident Russian war graves in the city were vandalised on Saturday night.

In Bonn, Friedhelm Busse, 73, leader of the Free German Workers' Party, one of the country's largest neo-Nazi political groups, was taken to hospital after having several teeth kicked out and bones broken in a foot when he was recognised by left-wing radicals in the centre of the city on Saturday. (Reuters)

Paris prepares to rescue humanity from its dark destiny France fends off world's medieval ways

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

WHILE European ministers prepared over the weekend for their umpteenth attempt to speed the world trade accord despite French intransigence, the chattering classes of Paris were worrying about the Middle Ages.

More precisely, they were wondering if France, with its system of powerful central authority, might not be ideally placed to lead the world away from a return to medieval chaos. This is the thesis of a book now enjoying spectacular promotion, including a glowing review by Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission. According to *Le Nouveau Moyen Age*, by Alain Minc, a businessman-intellectual, the modern age is drawing to a close and the world is going back to anarchy, feudal conflict and superstition.

The new middle ages are marked by "grey societies" where authority has given way to the rule of local lords, the "mafia" and cut-throat economic buccaneers who lay waste under the banner of the free market. Russia and Italy are his main examples, though Minc says lawless fiefdoms are breaking out everywhere. With its resistance to "jungle law" economics and its social cohesion, France can be a civilising force, he says.

"I totally share Minc's fundamental intuition," M Delors said in a full-page commentary in Saturday's *Le Monde*. In the post-Maastricht Europe, said M Delors, France owes it to Europe to share its qualities as "a unified country with a strong backbone" to impose order on the new world. French influence is already at work, some intellectuals are proudly noting, in the choice by Boris Yeltsin of France's Fifth Republic as the model for the new Russian constitution.

Some French commentators are criticising Mr Yeltsin for going even further than Charles de Gaulle in creating



France's chattering classes fear a return to medieval chaos, with society dominated by local barons, the mafia and cut-throat economic buccaneers

an all-powerful president when he dictated his constitution 35 years ago. That document gave birth to a republic whose mixture of nationalism and welfare state was soon defined as "Joan of Arc plus social security."

What is noteworthy about M Minc's pessimistic book and the surrounding fuss, is its illustration of the gulf that divides the Gallic world view from the outside perspective.

While many foreigners see France as a trouble-maker afflicted by demons from its darker past, opinion at home is convinced the country is a bastion of humanity whose ills are the work of barbarous foreign forces.

In the aftermath of the Air France debacle and with the December deadline for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade looming, the mood is growing stronger, narrowing the options for

Edouard Balladur, the prime minister. He is trying to find a way of signing up to Gatt without triggering a peasants' revolt, and of quelling unrest among public workers without destroying his drive to end the recession.

For all his serene demeanour, M Balladur has been adding to the tendency by blaming the "Anglo-Saxons" for French ills. Last week, he denounced "the Anglo-Saxon press" for making an

"absurd" link between his government's handling of the Air France strike and its opposition to what it sees as American cultural and economic diktat in the Gatt.

M Balladur could be sure of popular support for his argument since 80 per cent of the country approved his government's order to the Air France management to surrender to all the unions' demands. While the outside world saw the act as a bad omen for M Balladur's chances of resisting the farmers and other workers who are now on the warpath, no heavyweight voices made the point at home.

The idea was so novel that on Saturday *Le Monde* reported that European and American chief executives who attended a Paris symposium last week had been "fascinated and horrified" by the Air France revolt. They were appalled at the "archaic, suicidal, protectionist, vain and romantic" attitudes being displayed by the French government, unions and decision-makers, it said.

Also a surprise to France was the rebellion last week by the Swedish shareholders of Volvo against the planned merger with Renault. They are hostile to handing control to a state-run company in the control of a government apparently wedded to protectionist thinking. Such views are alien to the prevailing mood in France, where polls show public opinion wanting more state action to prevent layoffs and ensure incomes.

It is not surprising, given the mood of defensiveness, that number two in best-sellers list is *Germinal*, Emile Zola's 1885 tale of injustice to the workers. The sales are driven by the film epic which has been enshrined as France's official answer to the barbarism of *Jurassic Park* and the other American blockbusters. *Germinal* is doing good business at the box office, but nothing in comparison with *Jurassic Park*, which is already breaking records with the French public.

NEWS IN BRIEF

EC tries to revive trade talks

Brussels: European Community foreign ministers will try to breathe life into the stalled world trade talks today by repeating their demand for further concessions from Japan and the United States (James Landale writes).

At a meeting in Brussels, they will discuss a written report from Sir Leon Brittan, the EC trade commissioner, which criticises Japan and the US for refusing to match an EC offer to widen market access. The report says the EC "has neither the capacity nor the intention" of making the wide-ranging tariff cuts in goods and services that it offered in Geneva last month unless its main trading partners make similar offers.

Body returned

Sydney: The remains of Australia's unknown soldier arrived from France, 75 years after he died on the Western front during the first world war. He will be reburied at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra on Thursday. (AP)

Troops warned

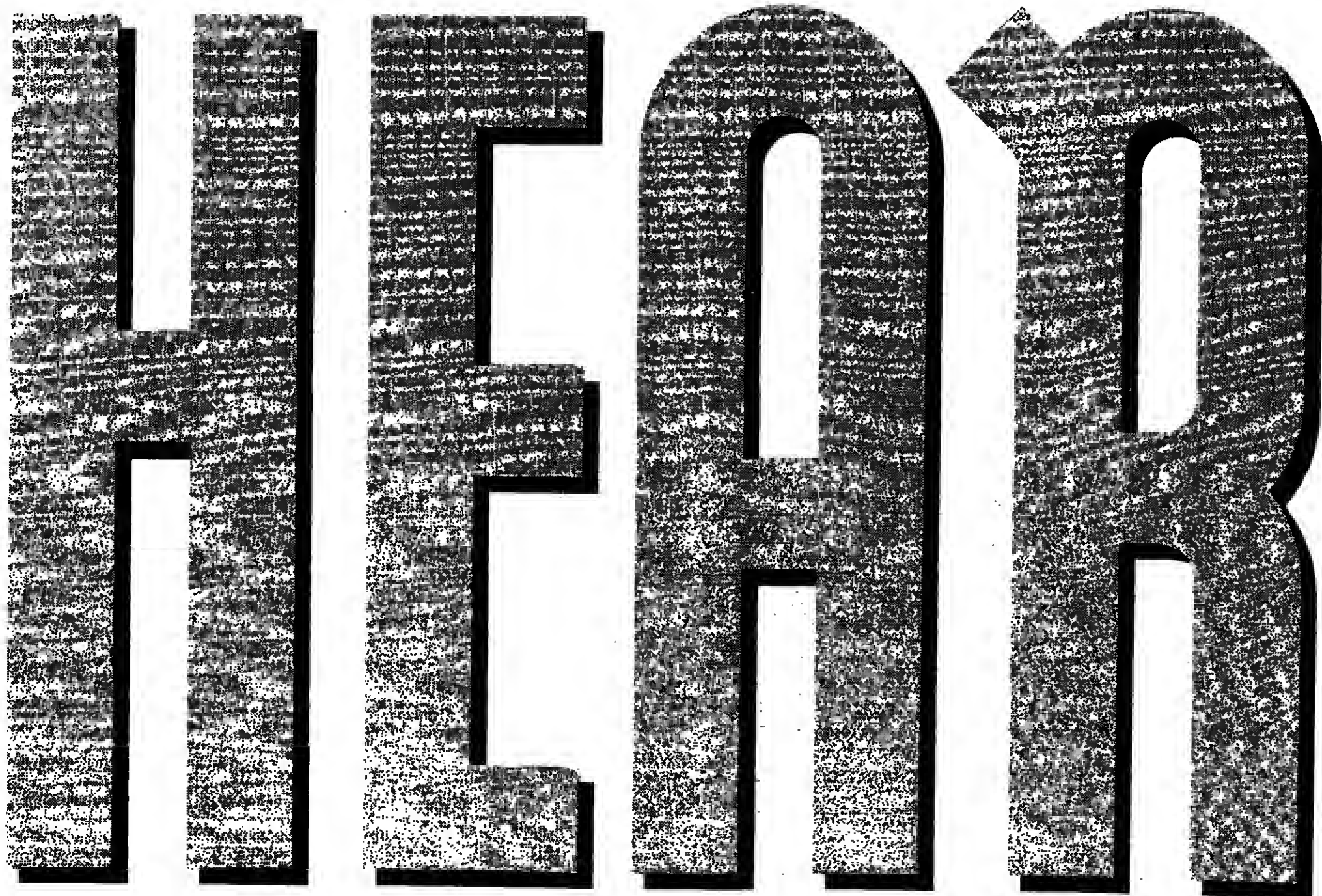
Mogadishu: General Mohammed Farrah Aidid, the Somali warlord, warned US troops not to return to the streets of Mogadishu, saying there was no need for their presence, which could violate a four-week-old ceasefire. (AP)

Protesters held

Stockholm: Police arrested ten people here who allegedly threw fire bombs and other objects at ultra-nationalists commemorating the death of King Gustavus II, the 17th-century monarch known as the warrior king. (AP)

Turkish curfew

Istanbul: The entire Turkish nation stayed at home yesterday as a national dawn to dusk curfew was imposed to allow officials to compile an electoral roll for use in local elections.



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DAY NOVEMBER
NEWS IN BRIEF
EC tries
to revive
trade
talks

Few turn out to commemorate revolution as 21 parties register for election

Moscow police push nostalgic diehards to outskirts of town

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

POLICE and security forces in Moscow yesterday dispersed marchers who turned out to mark the 76th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, forcing diehard communists intent on celebrating the day to shift to a venue outside the city for the first time.

A big police operation was mounted in an attempt to demonstrate that law and order have been firmly re-established in the run-up to next month's parliamentary poll and in the light of criticism levelled at the authorities for their failure to contain street violence on October 4. That violence turned into a full-scale uprising in which nearly 200 people died. Viktor Yerin, the interior minister, issued a stern warning to demonstrators that his forces "would relentlessly crush any disorder" and few anti-Yeltsin protesters ventured onto the streets.

Three hundred mainly elderly demonstrators who gathered near Okhranskaya Square, scene of violent clashes during May Day demonstrations this year, were driven back by police into the underground station. Another small crowd which approach-

ed Red Square chanting "Yeltsin: Fascist" was led away before demonstrators could unfurl their red banners. The groups later held a meeting in the Medvedkovo Forest outside the city boundaries to the north of Moscow which was attended by 1,000 people.

The anniversary of the October revolution, which falls in November because of the change in the Russian calendar after 1917, was traditionally the main state celebration. Now, however, it has been pushed to the margins of the public's consciousness by a president keen to distance himself from Marxist-Leninism. For the first time shops and offices have been allowed to close today, and the public holiday which begins this morning, as a holiday or not.

President Yeltsin was hoping for a quiet day, anxious to reassure his countrymen and the West that the period of instability in Russia last month was short-lived. But the meagre showing on the streets is deceptive because the main communist movement had told its supporters to stay at home and concentrate on

preparations for next month's elections.

Twenty-one parties and alliances registered for the poll by presenting the required 100,000 signatures. Mr Yeltsin appears confident that it will yield a parliament with which he can work, although the legislature is still likely to include a sizable Communist and nationalist component. At the weekend Mr Yeltsin confirmed rumours that he intended to ask the new parliament to approve plans to cancel the early presidential elections promised for June next year.

The Interfax news agency quoted him as saying that an early vote would be a stabilising factor in a period when the country would need to work on its economic development. He said that the pledge to hold a poll had been made under the pressure of his clash with parliament. Mr Yeltsin, who is said to be in precarious health, would prefer to continue to the end of his full term in June 1996 and said that he did not intend to stand again after that, adding: "Everyone knows the blows of fate I have suffered; it is too much for one man to take."



Communist demonstrators marking the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution in Moscow's Medvedkovo suburb after being forced away from Red Square

Shevardnadze forces win back last rebel stronghold

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW



GEORGIAN government forces this weekend captured the last outpost of Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the ousted president, effectively ending his rebellion, but his forces have promised to continue a guerrilla war against the regime of Eduard Shevardnadze.

The town of Zugdidi fell to Mr Shevardnadze's forces without a fight on Saturday as the Gamsakhurdia rebels fled into the neighbouring region of Abkhazia. Yesterday Mr Shevardnadze pulled his troops out of the town to avoid

"unpleasant incidents" between them and local residents. Mr Gamsakhurdia is said by the Georgian government to have moved to the town of Gali, just inside Abkhazia.

Three weeks ago Mr Gamsakhurdia's forces in western Georgia seemed poised to topple the government, which took power in a military coup in 1991. Mr Shevardnadze lost most of his military equipment and his best troops in the war with Abkhazia.

His striking reversal of fortune has been mainly thanks to Russia stepping in to help him. Russian military spokesmen have denied that any Russian troops

have done so, but Western observers have evidence of Russian tanks and other heavy equipment being supplied directly by the Russian army to Mr Shevardnadze's forces. The deployment of Russian troops to defend the key rail line from Georgia's Black Sea ports to Tbilisi also gave a boost to the government.

In exchange for Russian help, Mr Shevardnadze agreed that Georgia would join the Commonwealth of Independent States and, apparently, that Russian bases could remain in Georgia indefinitely. This provoked outrage among nationalists and he may be forced to renege.

Serbs use UN hostages as human shield

A Swedish officer had to summon air support to secure the release of three of his men. The fate of Croat civilians trapped in the conflict remains unclear

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN TISOVCI

THREE Swedish United Nations soldiers were held hostage by Serb extremists in the village of Dastansko, near Vares, yesterday as units from all three Bosnian factions battled for control of the area.

Their release was secured only after several hours of rising tension in which the UN deployed air support. Milan anti-tank missiles and more than 120 French and Swedish troops. The fate of the 500 Croat civilians reported to be in the village remains uncertain as fighting forced the UN troops to withdraw.

The situation arose after Croatian militia units abandoned Vares to advancing Muslim forces last Wednesday. Thousands of civilians, with outside militia elements from Kiseljak, fled east through Serb lines. However, up to 200 local militia members were refused the option to escape because they were accused by both the Kiseljak Croats and Serbs of having been too familiar with their Muslim neighbours in Vares.

They waited miserably in Dastansko two miles from the Serb line as vengeful Muslim units encircled them. Up to 500 civilians who apparently could not afford to pay the 500 mark (£190) tariff required by the Serbs for safe passage were believed to have joined them there.

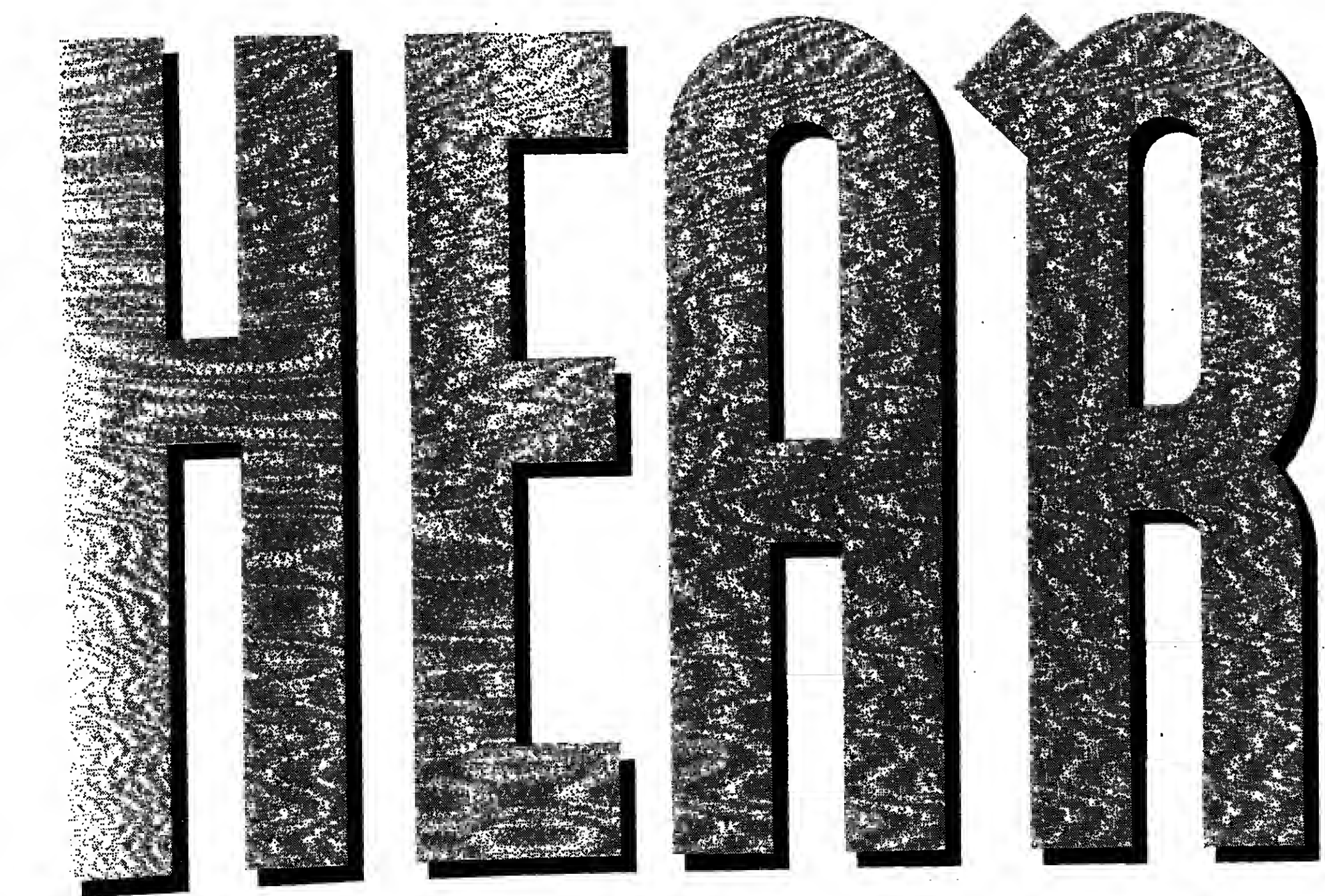
Two days ago Swedish units observed intense exchanges of fire as the Muslims advanced into the neighbouring village of Tisovci. Aware of the threats to the civilians, a UN patrol was sent in to

Dastansko early yesterday. The leading armoured personnel carrier found its path blocked by mines, and a Swedish officer and two soldiers climbed out. They were surrounded by Serb irregulars dressed in black fatigues and death's head insignia who seized them.

The fighting continued, and the UN presence was apparently used as a shield by the Serbs and Croats. Fire pounded Tisovci, while the Muslim troops there cursed the UN presence as hampering their ability to return fire. A company of Swedish infantry, backed by two French platoons were sent to the scene. They too came under attack: mortar rounds landed only feet away from the vehicle of Lieutenant-Colonel Bengt Berlin, the acting commanding officer.

Serb troops could be clearly seen moving around the UN vehicles in Dastansko. Led by a black-bearded commander named Vlasko, who drove around the area in a vehicle with a human skull strapped to the bonnet, the Serbs positioned two vehicles with heavy machine-guns against both the UN and Muslims.

Lieutenant Colonel Berlin called in air support and jets screamed through the sky above Dastansko. Initially it seemed to have little effect on Vlasko, described by another UN officer as "a complete lunatic". A French officer suggested pointing a Milan anti-tank missile at him. The Milan duly appeared, and after another hour's negotiations, the three Swedes were released.



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New Zealand poll result gives foretaste of proportional voting system

Bolger calls for calm in face of hung parliament

FROM MICHAEL MUNRO IN WELLINGTON

JIM Bolger, the prime minister, called for calm yesterday as New Zealand woke up to the prospect of its first minority government in 65 years and with Mr Bolger's economic-recovery programme thrown into disarray.

The governing National Party won 49 of the 99 seats in the single-chamber parliament in Saturday's poll, leaving it one short of an overall majority. The main opposition Labour Party secured 46 seats, while the left-wing Alliance Party and the New Zealand First Party, led by Winston Peters, the populist Maori MP, won two seats each.

At least five seats, including two held by the government, have wafer-thin majorities and could change hands when about 300,000 special votes, mostly postal, are counted in ten days' time.

Mr Bolger, 58, who was swept to power with a 37-seat majority three years ago, rejected suggestions that the country faced a constitutional crisis and called for calm to avoid alarming overseas investors. The prime minister,

who had campaigned on his government's record of economic recovery, insisted there would be stability if the four main parties worked together.

The minor party leaders, Mr Peters and Jim Anderton, 55, who left Labour four years ago and was the main force behind the establishment of the five-party Alliance group, said they would not enter coalitions with either the National or Labour parties.

Market analysts were yesterday fearful that the political uncertainty would push up interest rates and perhaps force down the value of the New Zealand dollar. New Zealand has one of the best performing economies among nations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Its growth rate of 2.9 per cent in the year to last June was second only to Canada's. Inflation is at 1.5 per cent and interest rates are at a 20-year low of about 7 per cent.

Adding to the uncertainty was the majority support in Saturday's referendum, concurrent with the election, for a proportional voting system



Mike Moore, the Labour Party leader, savouring his poll success with his wife, Yvonne, and a young supporter

modelled on Germany's. The proposal was supported by nearly 54 per cent of voters and will come into effect at the next general election.

The business community opposes the change because it creates a greater likelihood of coalition government, which would adversely affect policy

stability. Mr Bolger, who also opposes proportional voting, said an irony of Saturday's election result was that it had delivered a foretaste of life under the system.

Mike Moore, the Labour leader, said his party would be reassuring the business community that it would do nothing

reckless if a hung parliament were confirmed. He said the election was a rejection of the National Party government's headline policies to cut welfare spending, reform the hospital system and introduce controversial industrial relations changes that have seen trade unions

written out of the law. Mr Moore said Mr Bolger had no moral authority to govern.

Among the MPs to lose their seats were three former All Blacks, Graham Thorpe in the Auckland seat of Onehunga, Tony Steel in Hamilton East, and Chris Laidlaw in Wellington.

US rifle named as Australian murder weapon

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A RUGER .22 rifle made in the United States has been identified as the weapon used in the murder of one of the seven victims of the serial killer being sought in Australia's biggest murder hunt, reports in Sydney said yesterday.

Although at least five are known to have died of stab wounds, Caroline Clarke, 22, a British backpacker, was also shot in the head ten times, police sources have said.

Newspaper reports say tell-tale markings on shell casings found near the scene of her murder in the Bellanglo forest indicate the use of a Ruger, of which there are 600 registered owners in New South Wales. Although the police refused to confirm the reports, local registered owners have told reporters that their rifles have been seized by the police for ballistics tests.

A record reward for information pointing to the serial killer was offered yesterday. The *Sunday Telegraph* said it would offer Aus\$200,000 (£90,000) on top of a Aus\$500,000 reward announced by the state of New South Wales for information leading to the killer's capture.

Tasmania where Nancy Grunwald, 26, a German backpacker, disappeared in similar circumstances seven months ago.

The latest victims found were Gabor Neugebauer, 21, of Munich, and his girl friend Anja Hanschled, 20, of Karlsruhe, who were last seen on December 26, 1991, as they were about to leave for Darwin on their way to Indonesia.

The police say they have received reports from several people who said they managed to escape from a man who acted menacingly towards them after picking them up while they were hitchhiking near the forest 60 miles south of Sydney.

One young man is reported to have said he was so scared that he jumped out of the car after he had slowed behind a lorry. A young Melbourne couple are understood to have told the police they also had a terrifying encounter with a man who picked them up.

Apart from an intimate knowledge of the forest, the killer is believed to have a four-wheel-drive vehicle and to carry a heavy knife similar to a bayonet.

More than 300 police officers as well as two dogs trained to find dead bodies are involved in the investigation. The police said of the forest search: "There is nothing to suggest there are more bodies down there. They are not just searching for bodies; they are searching for evidence."

Quebec must cast aside sovereign dream

Can Canada hold on to its unified state?

WHEN I was growing up in the early studies in Canada, I thought my country was an example to the rest of the world, living proof that two nations could live in peace within a single state. I took Canada's very existence as a refutation of ethnic nationalism's central dogma: that every people constitutes a nation, and that every nation must have its own state.

My adolescent imagination turned that dull but intricate contrivance, Canadian federalism, into a moral beacon to the benighted world. It wasn't until nationalist bombs began to go off in Montreal in the 1960s that I realised that what for me was a family romance was, for most Quebecers, a loveless marriage.

I came of age, politically, in a Canada that began arguing about whether it could survive and has been doing so ever since. At first, it was an argument between English and French. Soon, the growing wealth of the western provinces and their resentment of eastern domination added a second dimension. A third dimension arrived in the 1970s, with aboriginal rights and native claims to self-determination over huge areas of Canada's northland.

Now, with the astonishing election of October 25, the long-running saga of Canadian crisis enters a new dimension. For the first time, there are not one but two regional parties, the Reform Party from the western provinces, and the Bloc Québécois, both expressing discontent with the status quo, but from opposite points of view.

The west is saying Canada has made far too many concessions to Quebec. The bloc is saying the concessions don't go nearly far enough. This time, Canadians are, the centre really cannot hold. The obituaries for Canada are being prepared.

Federal systems in Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Belgium, India and the former Soviet Union all sought to reconcile the ethnic principle — of being ruled by your own people — with the civic principle of equal citizenship for all. In the 1990s the ethnic principle seems to have the civic principle on the run. There has been divorce between Czechs and Slovaks, civil war in Yugoslavia, separatist religious revolts in India, ethnic warfare in Sri Lanka, the collapse of the federal structure of the Soviet empire, the further fragmentation of Belgium and the apparently unstoppable rise of nationalist separatism in Quebec.

The Canadian federation's essential problem has always been that the six



The Quebecois identify Quebec as their nation and Canada merely as their state. But they are unlikely to gain sovereignty, writes Michael Ignatieff

million French Quebecois identify Quebec as their nation and Canada merely as their state, while English-speaking Canadians identify Canada both as their nation and as their state. This asymmetry did not prove fatal as long as Quebec needed Canada. Since 1960, however, it has come of age, and now that it is master of its own house, Quebec wonders whether it needs Canada at all.

The Quebec case gives the lie to many generalisations made about nationalism, for example that nationalism is a response to backwardness and ebbs as backwardness is overcome. Not so. If Quebec is any guide, Quebecers have caught up economically with the rest of Canada in the past two

The Times Essay

generations. Yet this was the period when nationalist aspiration flowered.

Quebec also disproves the theory that the strength of nationalist grievance is in direct proportion to the intensity of left oppression. If you ask Quebecers when they last were made to feel ashamed, they can only cite bygone days when the big hotels or department stores in Montreal refused to serve their parents unless they spoke English. One would expect that nationalist feeling would ebb as personal resentment dissolves into myth. If anything the contrary has been the case.

English Canadians ask, with growing anguish and anger, what grievance could possibly justify Quebec's separation. But that may be the wrong question. Nationalism in Quebec has long ceased to be a vocabulary of resentment. It is now a rhetoric of self-affirmation in which achieving statehood matters, not because it ends a history of oppression, but because it recognises Quebec's coming of age.

Nationalism has often been a revolt against modernity, a defence of ethnic tradition from the devour-

ing flames of individualism, capitalism, Judaism and other imagined enemies. So it was in Germany. Until the 1960s, Quebec Catholic nationalism spoke in this tone at times. But not anymore. Quebec nationalists invariably emphasise that theirs is the cause of modernity: attacking the power of the church, advancing and defending the rights of Quebec's ethnic minorities.

I still think sovereignty remains an unlikely outcome. Crisis is endemic to Canadian politics because the relationship between French and English is inherently conflictual, but perpetual crisis does not necessarily mean the system has failed. The October election result is a sign that the system is still working. Voters crushed the ruling Progressive Conservatives, swept in a Liberal national government and gave a powerful representation for regional dissatisfaction.

Canadians, both French and English, voted both for strong central government and strong regional parties. What Quebec really wants, it is always said, is a sovereign Quebec within a united Canada. Yet when forced to choose in elections and referendums past, they chose to stay with Canada. Even the massive vote for the Bloc Québécois in October probably contained just as many discontented federalists as it did convinced nationalists. It was a vote against the status quo, but not a vote for separation.

What may keep Quebecers in Canada is not love for the Canadian nation state, but the realisation that striving for the trappings of sovereignty is an anachronistic obsession in a world where even the most powerful nation states must share sovereignty with the awesome power of a global economy. A state of one's own is the psychic token a people demands when it wants the world to recognise that it has come of age. Quebec has come of age, and with that maturity may come the realisation that it has outgrown the need for the baubles and beads of sovereignty.

Michael Ignatieff's television series on nationalism, Blood and Belonging, begins on BBC2 on Thursday at 9.30pm. The book of the series is published by BBC Books and Chatto and Windus at £16.99.

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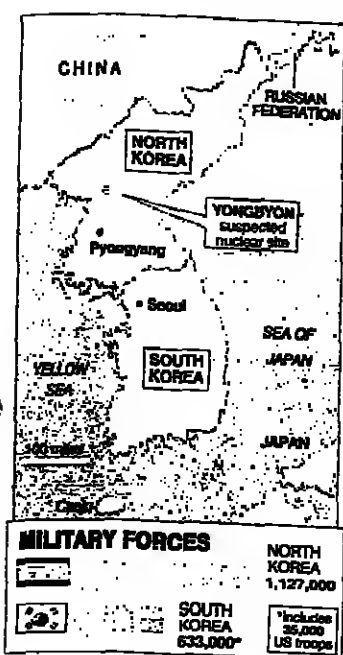
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US missile warning carries threat of new Korean war

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT



ALARM is growing over North Korea with evidence of increased troop deployments on the border with South Korea and threats from Washington of possible action to prevent the regime of President Kim Il Sung completing its suspected programme to build nuclear bombs.

The new warnings come after a visit to Seoul by Les Aspin, the US defence secretary, where he discussed the nuclear issue with the South Korean government.

President Clinton, whose handling of foreign policy matters, from Somalia to Bosnia-Herzegovina, has caused concern both in the United States and among America's closest allies, is now presented with another challenge. He resorted to the Tomahawk cruise missile option in dealing with Iraq in June.

President Clinton has issued a strong challenge that should serve to deter Pyongyang. If it fails, the cruise missile option might still be needed

Would he do the same against North Korea?

While targeting the suspected nuclear bomb sites at Yongbyon, near the capital Pyongyang might seem a legitimate exercise in contingency planning at the Pentagon, the repercussions of such an attack, were it to take place, would be far more serious than lobbing a few missiles at Iraq.

First, there is no proof that North Korea is close to producing a nuclear bomb, although the country's denials of any nuclear ambitions can be discounted. Second, any move that might provoke an attack on the south by the 700,000 or so North Korean soldiers

massed near the border could provoke a wider war reminiscent of the three-year conflict in the 1950s.

After the so-called "bottom-up review" aimed at restructuring American military forces for the era after the Cold War, American policy is now geared to face four new dangers: regional conflicts; the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction; threats to America's economic well-being; and the possible failure of democratic reform in the former Soviet bloc and elsewhere.

North Korea falls naturally into this new policy framework. Like Iraq, it is a country hostile to freedom and democracy and it is

determined to acquire nuclear weapons. The belligerent language over the weekend, particularly from Mr Clinton who said an attack on South Korea would be an attack on the United States, served as a warning that the regime in Pyongyang could become the Baghdad bogymen of the mid-1990s.

America has 35,500 troops in South Korea. They support South Korean armed forces of 633,000, equipped with 1,800 tanks, 2,000 armoured infantry fighting vehicles, about 4,400 artillery pieces and 445 combat aircraft.

Under present defence arrangements, an American commander would head United States and South Korean troops in the event of a war. All American tactical nuclear weapons in the South were removed more than two years ago.

North Korea has armed forces of 1,127,000. Its army of a million men

has about 3,700 tanks, 6,800 artillery pieces and 730 combat aircraft. Although in numerical terms they outnumber the combined forces in the south, Pyongyang has never been able to compete with Seoul's defence budget which, at double the level of North Korea's, reflects South Korea's flourishing economy.

In a war, North Korea would not be able to match the sophisticated weaponry available to the Americans, despite an effective national defence industry which, among other things, has developed its own ballistic missile system. Warnings from Pentagon officials that Tomahawk cruise missiles could wipe out North Korea's nuclear facilities are clearly intended to play a part in the diplomatic war that is being waged against the Stalinist regime in Pyongyang.

The build-up of North Korean forces on the border has not been a

sudden development. The numbers have increased steadily since 1990 so that about 70 per cent of the army is now positioned between the capital and the border. However, the forces are suffering from a shortage of fuel and regular training.

If Mr Clinton shows any sign of weakness in dealing with this latest foreign policy dilemma, North Korea might be tempted to carry out the often stated threat to unite the two Koreas by force by 1995. However, Mr Clinton has begun the challenge with bold words which should be sufficient to deter any aggressive action on the part of the North Korean government and armed forces.

If the president's words fail, the Tomahawk option might still be needed.

Clinton's threat, page 1
Leading article, page 17

Attack on rabbi sparks violence in West Bank

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN HEBRON
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PALESTINIAN gunmen ambushed a prominent right-wing rabbi yesterday, injuring him, killing his driver and sparking off a fresh round of attacks by Jewish settlers against Arab residents of Hebron in the West Bank.

The attack, on the road leading to Kiryat Arba, the main Jewish settlement in Hebron, was the second murder of a Jew in the West Bank in as many weeks and was regarded as a fresh attempt by hardline Palestinians to torpedo any progress in Middle East peace talks.

Israeli and Palestine Liberation Organisation negotiators, who broke off their dialogue last week at Taba in Egypt after disagreement on security for Jewish settlers living in the occupied territories, are due to resume their discussions this week in Cairo.

Israeli and Arab diplomatic sources said that as a result of the agreement to resume the talks, it was still expected that Israeli troops would start their withdrawal from the two designated areas by December 13 as agreed. *Al-Ahram*, the semi-official Cairo newspaper, also reported that Egypt had put forward new ideas designed to speed peace talks between Israel and Syria which at present are in deadlock, although Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, said that President Assad of Syria had rejected Israeli over-

tures to hold secret peace talks.

Jordan, which is holding its first multi-party general election today for nearly four decades, and Israel may also be on the verge of an agreement after the reported signing of secret understandings during a meeting in Amman last week between King Hussein and Shimon Peres, the Israeli foreign minister.

Nevertheless, in Israel the prospects for peace and diplomacy were yet again overshadowed by renewed security concerns when the left-wing coalition government held its weekly cabinet meeting and discussed how to curb Jewish and Arab extremism.

Yesterday's killing was claimed by two Palestinian groups opposed to the peace deal, but it was widely believed to be the work of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, which was responsible for the murder of another settler and two Israeli soldiers last month.

The target of yesterday's assassination attempt was Rabbi Haim Drukman, 60, who served for 11 years in the Knesset as a member of the right-wing National Religious Party. He is best known as a co-founder of the ultra-nationalist movement Gush Emunim (Block of the Faithful), which aims to colonise the occupied territories with Jewish settlers.

In another incident, in south Lebanon yesterday, Arab guerrillas attacked an Israeli-backed militia's post. Security sources said three militiamen were wounded.

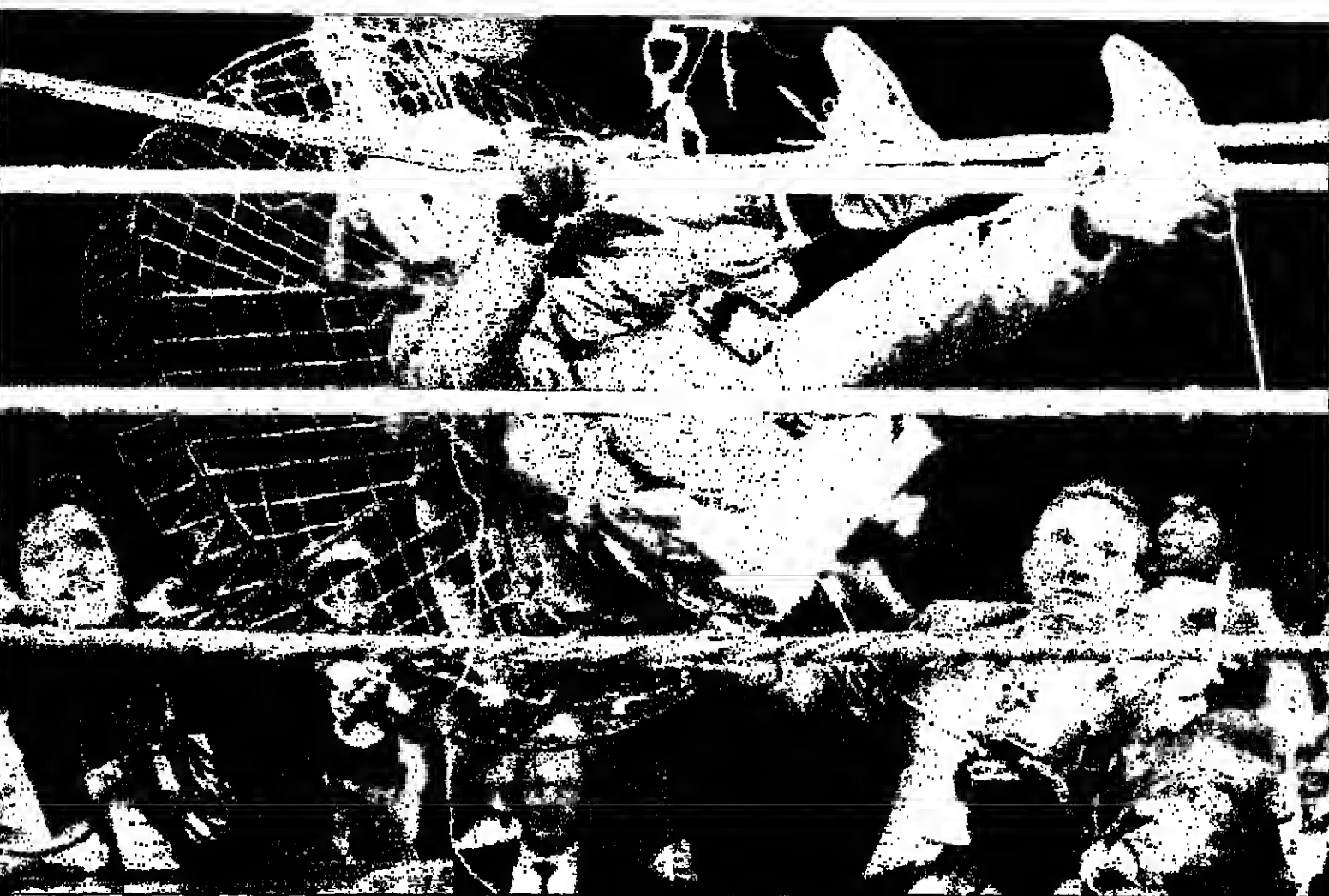
The attack on Rabbi Drukman ignited a spate of revenge attacks by heavily armed Jewish vigilantes, who fired randomly at Arab homes and property, blocked roads and set fire to cars with Palestinian number plates. Two Palestinians were reported to have been admitted to hospital in Hebron with gunshot wounds; four others were injured in separate clashes on Saturday night.



King Hussein met Peres for Amman talks

Letters, page 17

Parachutist drops in on world heavyweight fight



Still strapped to his propeller, the parachutist, identified by police as James Miller, struggles with the ring ropes after disrupting the fight

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
IN LAS VEGAS

YESTERDAY'S world heavyweight championship bout between Riddick Bowe and Evander Holyfield at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, was notable for several reasons, not least that Holyfield became one of the few boxers ever to regain the title. But it will be best remembered for an incident entirely unrelated to boxing.

In the seventh round, a parachutist, using a propeller to steer, came out of the black Nevada sky at high speed and crash-landed on the ring apron, getting his legs entangled in the ropes.

In perhaps the most bizarre incident in boxing's colourful history, the bout was held up for 20 minutes as the intruder was extricated and his parachute disentangled from the lights above the ring. Bowe's wife, Judy, three months pregnant, and others were taken to hospital with shock, some with minor injuries.

Police named the parachutist as James Miller, 30. He was taken to hospital after he was allegedly hit with a bottle by a member of Bowe's corner, but was later released into police custody and has been charged with "dangerous flying". No motive is known for his escapade.

Fight report, page 23

Protesters battle for suicide doctor

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

ON THE day Jack Kevorkian, 65, the "suicide doctor", was taken to jail in Detroit and went on hunger strike a study was released in New York showing that *Final Exit*, the best-selling suicide manual by Derek Humphrey, the British author, is having an effect on the way Americans kill themselves.

The two events have inflamed further the heated debate over the ethics of assisted suicide. Dr Kevorkian, a former pathologist, has helped 19 terminally ill people to commit suicide since 1990.

He is awaiting trial under a new Michigan statute that makes doctors who assist suicide liable to up to four years in prison. On Friday, when he was arrested, Dr Kevorkian refused to offer bail and went limp when deputies tried to remove him from court. He

was transferred to a wheelchair and taken to jail. "This is what I want," he said.

As he had threatened, Dr Kevorkian promptly put himself on a starvation diet of fruit juice and water, announcing: "It's my life or this immoral law." More than 200 supporters, including many relatives of those he has helped to commit suicide, demonstrated outside Wayne county jail.

Mr Humphrey's book recommends that terminally ill people wishing to die should asphyxiate themselves, calling this "self-deliverance via the plastic bag". In 1991, the year after the publication of *Final Exit*, the number of people who killed themselves in New York using that method rose from eight to 33. Researchers found evidence that the book had influenced at least a third of those suicides.

Grandmother finds police lying in wait at Inkatha slaughter hostel

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN THOKOZA

VIOLET Mncube, a 43-year-old grandmother, caught the wrong taxi and nearly died of her mistake. Instead she now recalls that Sunday a month ago when another woman gave her a farewell message for her family as she was lined up, naked, to be killed.

Mrs Mncube was going home to Thokoza, a township on the east Rand, after spending three weeks with her mother-in-law in Rustenburg.

She was holding Themba, the grandson she had raised as her own child, by the hand.

She did not know that the minibus taxi had become a battlefield between the ANC-aligned residents of Thokoza and the hostel dwellers owing allegiance to the Inkatha Freedom Party. She did not know that while she had been away the residents had stopped using Inkatha-operated taxis. She did not know that in her absence the taxi used by the residents had moved their cab rank.

She got into a taxi. It went along Khumalo road, which when she had left was a no-go area for residents since it passed an Inkatha-dominated hostel for migrant workers. "When the taxi reached the main entrance of KwaMada hostel a man in the roadway directed it into the gate. I was the only woman in the taxi, and I just resigned myself. So now it was my turn to die. The men in the minibus started shouting at the

driver to stop and to go back, but he took no notice."

There were three armoured vehicles of the police's internal stability department at the gate. Policemen, she says, ordered them to get out and followed them as they were marched to a hostel room. It was dark. Up to 20 people, three of them women, were sitting on the floor, all naked, being guarded by five surly men in shorts and a woman.

"We were told to undress," she said. An older man came in and asked where the new arrivals were. "When he saw Themba he said he could not let the child suffer because he is like an angel. They released me after a short argument."

Mrs Mncube, a Zulu, recognised two people sitting on the floor. One was a neighbour, Mary Mosiya. "She grabbed my hand. She asked me to tell her family that she was in the hostel and to say goodbye to her children. She was not crying, just said: 'Outside a policeman told her: 'You

must have prayed hard. No ANC gets out of here alive.'"

Three days later Mrs Mncube called at Mrs Mosiya's house. "Her husband told me he had found her body in the government mortuary that morning. Police had found her body in the veld." The man she had recognised has not been seen.

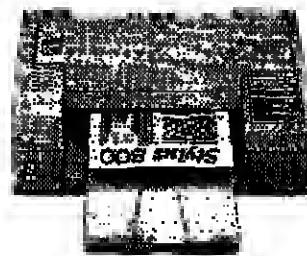
Until two years ago she was a domestic worker with an Afrikaner family in Alberton near by. Now she is a member of the left-wing Pan Africanist Congress. This week she joined a crowd marching to the African National Congress headquarters in Johannesburg protesting at the continued presence in Thokoza of the internal stability department police.

"People say we want anarchy when we say no more internal stability unit," she said, "but how could they let people be taken to their deaths and do nothing? Outsiders think the war is over here, but it has only changed shape."

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In memoriam, deux-chevaux

Dumpy, underpowered and finally trendy, the Purves 2CV is no more

Many a sedate three-wheeler motorist will have warmed, last week, to the tale of the rogue Reliant Robin which outran the police cars of two counties, reversing, ramming and fleeing with all its plastic might. There is something special about the relationship of the British and all jockey, tubby Noddy-cars that don't go very fast: we love our Morris Minors, Beetles and Reliants to death, give them nicknames, count them as family. Today I feel particularly empathetic with the love of little cars: for we have had a family bereavement.

So I crave your respectful silence for an obituary, a threnody, an *ochone* on behalf of my mother, who is this very day being parted from the last in an unbroken 33-year series of Citroën 2CVs. In 1961 my father, H.M. Consul in Lille, was so determined not to let her at his Peugeot that he gave her a *deux-chevaux* in family parlance, the Dershe. Here began a great partnership, only now severed by the decrepitude of the current Dershe and the refusal of Citroën to make any more. She is going to have to get a Proper Car: with headlights which aren't on stalks and wasteful modern fal-lals like wind-up windows instead of flaps that crash down at 40mph. The odds are it will weigh more than 500kg unloaded, and have a normal gearbox instead of a fiendish Gallic maze. It is virtually an amputation: in 33 years mum's only infidelity to the breed has been a brief flirtation with the Dyane — identical, but two inches longer. It didn't last. The basic design, knocked up 40 years ago to hold one French farmer plus wife and pig, somehow suited her needs. Even its increasing trendiness failed to put her off: in the 1970s our 2CVs were probably the only ones in Britain not smelling of marijuana.

All our childhoods are in that car, diplomatic travels and parsimonious holidays. Each of us in turn was taught to put a brick under the wheel when parking on a hill. The first came back

from France 31 years ago, to be loaded into the hold of a mail ship en route to Johannesburg: at 6,000ft it had the odd starting problem.

It returned two years later through the Suez Canal, to jerk and bounce to Suffolk with four children in the back and be stopped on the A12 by the police and asked for details of its journey. "Johannesburg to Walberswick," said the driver, not without satisfaction. Succeeding Purves Dershes, all that identical faded blue, quartered Europe and made 33 crossings to southern Ireland.

Since my mother's system of packing was to start shoving things under the seats three weeks beforehand, then push four children in and boxes around us, filling all interstices right up to the roof, her major fear was that the Dershe's tinny sides would burst in a shower of intimate shame. An entire cottage was furnished out of that car, by easy stages: I have particularly bitter memories of the butter-churn, and of the block of peat on which I sat for 400 miles at the age of 14, dreaming of Mick Jagger.

Later Dershes had varying lifespans: particular distinction attaches to the one which brought an enormous revolving bookcase from Lincolnshire; and the one which served so long that while conveying the Earl of Stradbroke's elderly aunt to mass, a hole appeared in the floor and only St Christopher and a stout rubber mat prevented an amendment to Debreit. In recent years the 2CV became trendy again: frequently, emerging from a sedate bandage-rolling session with the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa, my 77-year-old mother has been flattered to find notes under her wipers inviting her to an owners' club disco.

But on Saturday night, I saw the last Dershe roll away, looking in dusky silhouette exactly as the first one did when I was ten. It has been our family's *Picture of Dorian Gray*, ever-renewed and unchanging while we all wrinkled up. Adieu, adieu.



LIBBY PURVES

How a reformed superbrat found unlikely solace as an art dealer

Can he be serious? John McEnroe, former Wimbledon champion, superbrat and the estranged husband of Tatum O'Neal, has become an art dealer in New York's SoHo.

His celebrity status is proving a mixed blessing in his new role. On the one hand, it has meant "I was able to meet people. Artists had a respect for me and it was mutual". On the other, in his incarnation as "Johnny Mac, art dealer" he fears that prospective clients will turn out to be fans wanting his autograph.

As a result, his gallery in Greene Street is open by appointment only. Another disadvantage in this cut-throat world could be his attitude: "I'm not in it to make money. I think it is really boring."

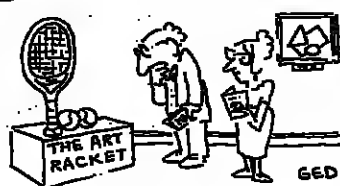
Those who finally manage to track him down, however, can expect a sophisticated if eclectic taste, and some feisty opinions on

John McEnroe — still playing to the gallery

art. Having toiled up a steep staircase, the visitor arrives in a large, bright gallery space. Alongside is a conference room, shielded from prying eyes by a specially-designed glass wall which turns opaque at the click of a switch.

On the same floor is a functional and austere kitchen and a bedroom almost empty apart from pictures on the wall and a lone guitar on a vast, glacially-white bed.

This is the new John McEnroe — ascetic, hermetic, finding solace in art. Now 35 and publicly bruised by his separation from O'Neal



11 months ago, art is his new passion.

He likes Eric Fischl, for example, because of his "very strong feelings about adolescence which he transfers onto canvas". Jean-Michel Basquiat, the late black graffiti

artist who has admirers and detractors in equal measure, "is a very serious artist. Full of energy". Mr McEnroe relates to the "child" in his work.

Elsewhere, the gallery contains abstracts by Pamela Markham-Heller, and a series of huge history paintings just completed by Bruno Fonseca. Here, in a style reminiscent of both Tintoretto and Goya, the New York artist has invoked the war in Bosnia by painting street executions and tanks entering town squares.

His favourite is a 1978 portrait of

a naked, pregnant woman by the late Alice Neel, a white American artist who, according to Mr McEnroe, had a "tough life" in Harlem. "To me it represents the beauty of pregnancy. I was in the delivery room three times and there is nothing that compares with it," he says.

How do art and tennis compare? "Tennis is more cut and dried. We know who the number one player in the world is. With art there is definitely competition, but it is not the competition of playing before 10,000 people."

Oddly, it was tennis which introduced the star to art. At the age of 21 he won a tournament with a prize of \$50,000 to spend on the paintings, and he asked a friend to choose for him. Later he started to "trade some stuff" and got the bug.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

Not quite Kennedy

President Clinton is stumbling in his hero's footsteps, says Martin Fletcher



Contrasts... Kennedy is a folk hero, Clinton invites ridicule

President Kennedy was assassinated 30 years ago this month, and another wave of longing and nostalgia is about to roll across America.

Dallas will hold a ceremony designating Dealey Plaza, where Kennedy was shot on November 22, 1963, a national historical landmark. The JFK presidential library in Boston has just completed a \$7 million overhaul, there will be more books, articles and television documentaries, and yet more wild speculation about who really killed the president.

Despite his flaws, the Kennedy mystique has become invulnerable to denigration. Kennedy's brief three-year presidency is now seen as the last in which Americans truly believed in their leaders and a rosy future. Polls consistently show most Americans believe he was the greatest post-war president, and his nephew, Patrick, is set to join two other Kennedys in Congress next year.

But Senator Edward Kennedy's son is out alone in seeking to benefit from his dead uncle's remarkable hold over the American people. President Clinton has seized every possible opportunity to link himself

to his party's last successful president.

Mr Clinton's inauguration was packed with allusions to Kennedy. He sits at Kennedy's old desk in the Oval Office. He spent his summer holiday in Kennedy's old playground, Martha's Vineyard, and went sailing with his widow, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

Mr Clinton's public utterances ring with Kennedyesque rhetoric. In recent months he has spoken at an obscure river wharf in New Orleans, at Washington's American University, and at the University of North Carolina — all places where Kennedy made important appearances 30 years earlier. The president is even said to be weighing a speech in Berlin — site of Kennedy's famous "Ich bin ein Berliner" address — en route to January's Moscow summit.

Last Friday Mr Clinton joined the Kennedy family for the rededication of the revamped Kennedy library and sought to draw parallels between his own infant national service programme and Kennedy's much-admired Peace Corps, between his support for a pared-back space station and Kennedy's drive to put the first man on

the moon. The family itself is surprised, but not displeased, by the 42nd president's constant evocation of the 35th.

At last Friday's ceremony the family presented Mr Clinton with a leatherbound collection of JFK's writings and Senator Kennedy told him what he most wanted to hear: "My brother would have been proud of you, and so are we."

There are kind explanations for Mr Clinton's obsession: Shaking President Kennedy's hand on the White House lawn in 1963 unquestionably made an enormous im-

pression on the 17-year-old straight from small-town Arkansas. Being president is also such a lonely job that many "commune" with favourite predecessors.

The harsher explanation is that "Slick Willie" is trying to bask in Kennedy's reflected glory, and many observers believe that is a dangerous game to play. The president is in danger of inviting ridicule.

Certainly Mr Clinton, like Kennedy, is a young, vigorous, highly-intelligent Democrat, but beyond that the idea of Mr Clinton as the

Jack Kennedy of the 1990s looks increasingly far-fetched.

Kennedy was a millionaire Irish Catholic from the Boston establishment while Mr Clinton is a southern baptist who never knew his father. Kennedy fought and was wounded in the second world war, while Mr Clinton resisted the Vietnam draft. One Kennedy trait Mr Clinton does, perhaps, share is a weakness for women.

Kennedy's term began with the Bay of Pigs disaster, and later he led America into the Vietnam war, but he also won international respect for facing down Krushchev during the Cuban missile and Berlin crises, and he was passionate about foreign policy.

Admittedly the circumstances have changed dramatically, but Mr Clinton has equivocated on Bosnia, sounded the retreat in Somalia, and his leadership is viewed with anxiety abroad. Again there is one similarity. In 1963 Kennedy, like Mr Clinton, surrounded Haiti with warships to try to dislodge a dictatorship and enjoyed just as little success.

Mr Clinton is really much closer to Lyndon Johnson in his desire to tackle America's social ills and his astonishing command of legislative detail, but like Kennedy he is disorganised and prone to retreat in the face of congressional opposition.

In style the two men are worlds apart. Kennedy charmed the media with his wit and humour, and it largely protected him when he stumbled. Mr Clinton has needlessly antagonised it and paid a heavy price. Kennedy turned the White House into a showcase for American culture. The Clintons have made it a haven for deadly-earnest policy wonks. This White House is hardly Camelot.

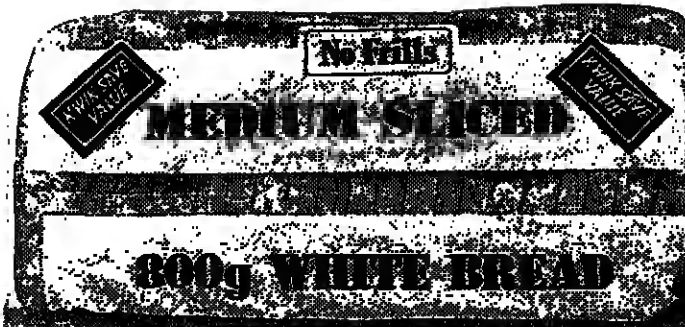
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In three words, America's designers have created fashion for women who don't want Fashion

Perky snappy, zippy



Fashion
by IAIN R. WEBB

You know what women no longer want fashion," confided Zoran, the Yugoslavian-born, New York-based fashion designer. It seemed an odd thing to say at the preview of his new line for next spring. It certainly wasn't what I wanted to hear, having made the Atlantic crossing to see what the American designers had to offer for spring/summer 1994.

As a designer, Zoran doesn't get blown along with the winds of change, he continues to make clothes he knows will fit his customers — their bodies, their lifestyles, their purses. This season his minimalist designs just happen to collide with the chic consensus.

In the swanky Upper Eastside restaurant Mr Chow's, Zoran showed 20 or so outfits, on just three young women. They modelled the designer's staple selection of layered georgette tunics, sometimes worn as a slip of a dress, sometimes teamed with trousers, or a sarong skirt (short or long) — a cardigan added here, a sweater thrown around the neck there.

There was little to determine if the designer intended these clothes for day or night. A cream cashmere sweater worn over a pewter chiffon T-shirt dress was elegant enough for after dark, yet his black organza coat with high-cut side splits could, as he proceeded to demonstrate with one deft knot, be transformed into an evening gown as dramatic as any Balenciaga. Yet everything about it was easy. As was the presentation. With only a handful of garments we got the designer's drift.

Unfortunately, the move away from such polite showings has done a great disservice to American fashion. This season giant tents were set up in New York's Bryant Park, similar to those at the Louvre in Paris, and under the banner, Seventh on Sixth, the designers unveiled their new lines.

It certainly made life more comfortable for the journalists and buyers, who no longer had to jostle with native New Yorkers for yellow cabs. However, it was not so painless watching countless T-shirts, vests, and slip dresses wander down a catwalk intended for something spectacular. As



RALPH LAUREN



ANNE KLEIN

clever Mr Zoran knows, there is only so much minimalism a person can take. Which is exactly what we got from the American designers. Fashion pared down to the bones.

For the most part it was pretty, and perfectly right for now. If women don't want fashion with a capital F, then a wardrobe full of separates seems like an excellent idea. What the Americans provide are separates like no others. Calvin Klein makes a tank-top in silk mousseline, a T-shirt in silk. Charneise, Donna Karan cuts a raincoat in silk taffeta, and a slip dress in iridescent silk chiffon. At Ralph Lauren the tiniest midriff-baring camisole is beaded beyond belief.

The woman who inspires the American crew works hard for her money. She still wants a suit for the office, so the designers provide one. Whether she will wear the tiny floppy skirt, barely visible under a jacket, is questionable, yet that is how every designer in New York wants it. Maybe they are tired of the political correctness which riddles American society with fear, loathing and endless lawsuits, or maybe they really do feel for "perky", "snappy", "zippy" — the new buzzwords.

New toast of the town, Richard Tyler, created some of the best jackets. For his own line he showed distressed velvet stripes, and tuxedos in linen. His collection for the Anne Klein label was stronger, and more cohesive. It was here that the little suit looked best in grey pinstripe, worn with black knee stockings, a recurring motif. He also showed an A-line wrap mini skirt which regularly reappeared during the week.

The mini-skirted suit was also popular with Isaac Mizrahi, although sometimes he did away with the skirt entirely, sending out a jacket which doubled as a dress. His evening wear made from palates of recycled 7-Up, and Coca-Cola tin cans was genius, as were the shoes designed by Manolo Blahnik. Token black patent straps on the highest of heels.

Liza Bruce is a radical minimalist. Diaphanous T-shirts and shifts are for the young and daring, but her whiter-than-white washed cotton drill and fine needlecord trouser suits, dresses and jackets are for everyone. Another recurring theme plundered the military. For his



ABOVE LEFT: GO-SILK THE EPTOME OF THE AMERICAN COLLECTIONS, PERKY, SNAPPY AND ZIPPY. ABOVE: DONNA KARAN CLOTHES FOR WOMEN WHO DO WITHOUT FUSS



ABOVE: MIZRAHI
ABOVE LEFT: CALVIN KLEIN
LEFT: LIZA BRUCE



designs in reflective fibreglass-coated fabrics. Straightforward trenchcoats, anoraks, skirts and jeans positively glowed on the catwalk. Karan makes clothes for women who do without fuss. Her voluminous raincoats worn with trousers redefined the suit. Evening dresses were even more refined. Jersey columns held up with metal collars, and kaftan-like chiffon "butterfly" dresses were breathtaking.

CK collection, Calvin Klein made a pair of fatigue trousers into a skirt of camouflage-print chiffon, and at Anne Klein, Tyler showed dresses in similar fabric. But it was Ralph Lauren who went overboard for the look. Khaki shirts with epaulettes mixed with mini-sarongs, long jersey skirts appeared next to madras Mao dresses and ikat print tunics. It was a simply marvellous collection, simply marred by the Bonjour Vietnam styling.

Calvin Klein has his eye on Europe, and it showed. Layered chiffon, linen, and crepe tunics, T-shirts and vest dresses looked pretty in shades of sandalwood, biscuit, ivory, and sky. He mixed inky dark tones with touches of metallics — platinum, mercury and sterling, to charming effect.

Another designer who chose modern metallics was Anna Sui, colouring stretch sportswear and leather in shiny silver and gold. Donna Karan created thoroughly dazzling

breath of fresh air was provided by Go-Silk. Away from the tents, in a tiny showroom over tea, Gabriela Valenzuela showed a small collection of delightful layered looks. Waxed linen anoraks over little apron skirts and vests, linen sweaters, organza tunics, long linen-knit dresses looked *au courant* mixed with pyjama suits, and shorts.

The Go-Silk show summed up the American collections with admirable ease. American design is perky, snappy and zippy, and more besides. It's just like that other successful American dream, the Gap, only much more glamorous. More importantly, it's fashion for women who don't want Fashion anymore.

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Matthew Parris



■ One question is never asked in the Ulster debate, and it is the question we should ask before all others

Ireland has us by the throat again. For the better part of a month, a near-continuous volley of opinion and counter-opinion has been played across the pages of this and other newspapers. Within *The Times* alone, readers have been able to follow a range of argument wide enough to include, at one end, Simon Jenkins (who comes close to proposing that Ulster be helped with security but otherwise left to its own devices) and, at the other, the more conservative drift of this newspaper's leader columns, urging a hands-on drive to reassure Unionist opinion.

Outside *The Times* Ken Livingstone can be heard putting a well-reasoned case for withdrawing troops. Simon Hefner propounding an equally well-reasoned case for declaring full-scale war on the IRA. An impressive debate. But one question has never been asked: a question so important that I wonder whether the debate should even begin before it is settled. It is a question to which, bafflingly, the answer has been assumed on all sides, but cannot be.

'If gangrene sets in, I can vote, I think, to amputate my little toe'

There is one thing on which Jenkins, Hefner, Paisley, Adams and the editorial opinions of *The Times*, *The Daily Telegraph* and the *New Statesman* are agreed. All contend that the search is for a route to durable peace in Ulster. Indeed, everyone seems to assume such a route must exist. Hefner says a military crackdown can bring peace; Livingstone says the withdrawal of troops can bring peace; Jenkins says that when Ulster controls its own affairs, both sides will learn the argument for peace; and on the leader page opposite him, we read that by reassuring the Protestants that peace can be underwritten.

Each one of them advances proposals intended to improve, or even solve, the situation in Northern Ireland. Each one of them assumes we can. All assume we should. None of them asks whether this, at whatever price, should be Westminster's overriding policy quest. Though, then, they agree about little else, every voice raised in public argues implicitly on this: that peace is obtainable; or it may be available; or it may be available at too great an expense.

Most people in England, Scotland and Wales are not very interested in the dispute between the two sides in Ireland and do not feel involved. They think the Irish should be left to shoot it out among themselves. You may consider that a crude opinion, but it is very, very widely held, yet almost never publicly expressed.

When something that almost everybody thinks is given no voice at all in Parliament, we should beware.

Jeremy Paxman deserves better from the Garrick — he is only doing his job, and doing it well

Why did four members — if it was four — of the committee of the Garrick Club blackball Jeremy Paxman? Bernard Levin was blackballed because he was rude about Lord Goddard immediately after Lord Goddard's death. As I published that article I could hardly criticise him for it, and indeed I believe that one of the truths about Lord Goddard was that he could be an unjust old bully, who allowed his prejudices to influence his conduct on the bench. But I understand that his fellow lawyers who had seen his better side and revered him could take another view of the article.

I do not know why Henry Irving was blackballed; jealousy, one might assume, since jealousy is an even more common weakness of actor-Johnnies than of literary-Johnnies or lawyer-Johnnies, of which groups the Garrick Club is largely comprised. The publisher-Johnnies are more than capable of jealousy as well: Jamie Hamilton was my friend and publisher, and has now gone to the Scottish publisher's heaven which is full of Macmillans and Constables and Collinses, but the fire that burnt in his heart when he learnt of George Weidenfeld's peerage was a terrible thing to behold. Jamie was a member of the Garrick too. I do not believe that it was simply jealousy that led to Mr Paxman being blackballed, though jealousy is not unknown to the broadcasting-Johnnies, as well as all the other Garrick-Johnnies in their different professions.

What his critics have said is that he is too tough in the questioning style he adopts on *Newsnight*. But such an argument only has to be made public — as it now has been — for it to be seen to be preposterous, grotesque, phantasmagorical, made up out of the whole cloth, or whatever epithet for the ridiculous can be dredged from one's memory or one's dictionary. Too tough on whom? Too tough

Blackballed by the polite tendency

on politicians who have not directly answered any question they have been asked since 1985? Too tough on ambassadors who represent regimes who shower their own people with nerve gas? Of course our own dear Ministry of Agriculture has done much the same, but that was to protect sheep from some obscure form of ovine dermatitis, the foot rot, the swells, the chance for botulism. Too tough on publicity-seeking fraudsters, who would not give an honest answer to St Peter on the Day of Judgment? We know that the people Mr Paxman has pressed hardest on *Newsnight* are professionals, determined to present their version of affairs, and that their version is often far from the truth.

In my experience, Mr Paxman, like Robin Day, his great television predecessor — who is indeed the Samuel Johnson of the Great Cham, of the Garrick Club — does not cross-examine innocent witnesses with his full severity. Mr Paxman is like the bowler who employs bouncers against front-order batsmen but not against tailenders. The people who find themselves falling back on their stumps when replying to a Paxman question are supposed to be able to look after themselves. It is their profession to reply to questions, however hostile, and they deserve no public sympathy when the ball gets through their defence.

The Garrick behaves eccentrically from time to time, as all clubs do. One of the problems of club life is that

many people find the committee work very boring. Some reasonable men can be persuaded — in the manner of the Speaker — reluctantly to accept membership of committees. Club committees have to deal with all the trivia of housekeeping, with petty complaints, with split teacups and stale beer. They are not always representative of their members, who tend to steer well clear of such tedious matters.

William Rees-Mogg

Plainly the Garrick committee has done pretty well; the food is excellent, the membership is the most entertaining — if not the wisest — middle-aged male company available in London, the balance sheet is sound. All the essentials of a club are in good order, and after 30 years' experience, I think the Garrick is very probably the best club in London. But then this folly happens. I make no personal criticisms, for I have always made a point not only of avoiding club committees myself, but of refusing to know who is sitting on them. For all I know, the Chancellor of the Exchequer is the treasurer of the Garrick and the Duke of Edinburgh is the chairman of the wine

committee. If so, he is to be commended: the club daret is refreshingly good.

How could they? Of course, I can see that someone could want to blackball Mr Paxman. There must be people who know him well and do not like him. That is true of all of us, thank goodness. I only know him as an acquaintance — I do not think we have ever had a meal together. I have met him several times on *Newsnight*. For what that is worth, I like his courage and energy. But how could they blackball him for not being sufficiently respectful of public personages? The great merit of the club is that it is a gathering of controversialists, of people who speak their minds and do not expect offence to be taken, though their views range from the enlightened to the eccentric. The Garrick is the last club in London which ought to tell its prospective members to go and wash their mouths out before they are allowed to join. In fact, all our best members, those who give the greatest enjoyment to the other members, are capable of making outrageous remarks. It is not the mild and pacific members, like myself, who contribute most to the club, but those whose Garrick role is to play Falstaff rather than Horatio.

If this nonsense can happen in the Garrick, it can happen anywhere. Politicians often demand polite television — they would, wouldn't they? They would also like to have polite newspapers. *The Times* of the late

1930s was always polite to Neville Chamberlain and strove to avoid giving offence to "the German Chancellor, Herr Hitler". It is not an example to follow. Critics will not demand a polite stage and a polite literature. Unfortunately the search for truth cannot be a polite business, even though mankind prefers "the easy speeches that comfort cruel men". Hardly one of the great masters of English literature was polite, not Chaucer, not Shakespeare, not Milton, not Pope, not Swift, not Johnson, not Shelley, not Byron, not Dickens, not Shaw, not Waugh, Jane Austen is sharp enough. A namby-pamby respect for perceived wisdom and the official spokesman is the sure mark of the second rate. In Mr Paxman's job, that would not only be useless, but pernicious.

A truth needs to be explained to the unfortunate blackballers: the world is not the place they wish it to be. They might prefer it to be a nice, safe world, in which lies were not told, terrible events did not occur, and every ailment could be cured by homeopathic medicine, with never any need for surgery. That is not the world God created. He created a world of storm and conflict, of evil struggling against good, in which truth only prevails by beating down the lies which oppose it. It is not a world which can wholly be managed by the squeamish, or in which sharp questions are the real offence. The real offence is often the failure to ask questions at all.

I hope that the Garrick committee will reconsider this decision because it has been made on anti-Garrick principles. Enough clubs already exist for people for whom a decorous avoidance of offence is the highest club value. But that is not what the Garrick stands for. Mr Worldly Wiseman has many other clubs; he should not be allowed to get away with blackballing Mr Valiant-for-Truth.

Opposition for its own sake

Labour badly needs positive ideas, says Peter Riddell

The most conservative forces in British politics are now on the left rather than the right, in the Labour and Liberal Democrat leaderships. Their spokesmen are certainly not idle. They are busily campaigning on the crime figures and against the extension of VAT to domestic fuel. But activity is not the same as new thinking. With one big exception, constitutional reform, the opposition parties have little fresh to say on many key issues. They have still not adjusted to the upheavals of the Thatcher era.

Some Labour leaders — mainly, but not solely, in the "moderniser" group around Gordon Brown and Tony Blair — fear that an opportunity will be lost as options are closed. One leading member of the shadow cabinet said the other day: "Each week a further bolt is locked on the straitjacket." Ben Lucas of the Labour Co-ordinating Committee, a group of mainstream activists, has complained in *Tribune* of "worrying signs that a combination of shrewd parliamentary tactics, partial constitutional reform and old Labourism could be Labour's strategy for the next election. Such a strategy is both innately flawed and deeply conservative".

The intellectual momentum still lies with the right. Implementation may at times be muddled and uncertain as John Major battles to establish authority and to manoeuvre through Parliament. But many of his government's policies remain radical in inspiration and intention. As I discussed in this column a week ago, the "back to basics" theme launched at the Tory conference is part of a deeper attempt to change social policies. The government is also continuing the shake-up of public services summed up by the slogan



"re-inventing government". The monolithic state as provider of services is being broken up.

The Labour response has mainly been to oppose. When, last Thursday, William Waldegrave reported on the market testing programme to introduce competition into Whitehall services, Michael Meacher, his new shadow, was largely negative. He talked of "another major step along the road to dissolution of a national civil service". This contrasts with the more positive attitude towards competitive tendering of many Labour local council leaders.

The long period of one-party rule has too often led to opposition for its own sake. Any spirit of bipartisanship has been destroyed. Opposition MPs have no interest in the success of health and education reforms. They

are seen as Tory changes benefiting Tory supporters. But this has left Labour one step behind the government, reacting rather than trying to leap ahead. Labour still appears as the defender of producer interests and public-sector unions. That is the message conveyed by John Smith's promises about workers' rights and by the row over his support for the European socialist manifesto.

The big exception to this conservatism is constitutional reform. While differing over the electoral system, both Labour and the Liberal Democrats are committed to far-reaching changes, while the Tories appear as the defenders of a battered status quo. Mr Smith has sounded most

passionate and persuasive when criticising standards in government. But, as John Patten has argued: "A concentration on constitutional change is the last refuge of the politically exhausted, or those that have come to understand that they will take power by no other means." That understates real worries about centralism, but such an emphasis is a sign of frustration, and failure. For the Liberal Democrats, talking about the constitution can appear a substitute for addressing central economic and social questions.

Mr Smith's great asset is an image of probity, decency and competence, someone who would be a safe pair of hands in Downing Street. But this is linked to caution and detachment. He may publicly dismiss a "one more heavy" approach as not enough for

Labour to win power, but he often behaves as if it is. Radical ideas are discouraged. He allows shadow cabinet factions to battle among themselves, as Mr Brown, Robin Cook and John Prescott are doing over how far to promise restoration of full employment. He commits himself on only a few key issues — though, admittedly, he then shows his determination, as in his narrow victory over one member one vote in the selection of candidates.

Labour's "modernisers" are on the defensive, fighting for influence. They risk being isolated, as the Jenkinses were in the 1970s. Some fear that the springboard achieved by Neil Kinnock's policy reviews in the 1987-92 Parliament is being dismantled. Their weakness is that so far they have mainly been clearing the decks of past commitments, as Mr Brown has recently been doing on tax and spending. The scars of Labour's electoral defeats have made them reluctant to take risks.

However, many Labour MPs and supporters back modernisation, even if they dislike the term for its factional associations. Ideas are produced on provision of greater job security or making the state less remote. Jack Straw's article on this page on Saturday showed how Labour is seeking to strengthen democratic accountability in face of the growth of unelected quangos. And Frank Field remains a one-man stream of policy ideas on reforming social security.

The biggest challenge to Labour's conservatism may come from an initiative intended to defer awkward decisions: the social justice commission chaired by Sir Gordon Borrie. The early signs are that it is prepared to think radically about the welfare state, as in a paper today about the national insurance system. The commission is due to report next autumn and Mr Smith recently told some of its members that he was ready to consider far-reaching changes. However, some Labour leaders have already been heard to wonder how they can sideline the report. Mr Smith's response will show how far he is prepared to break with his labourist instincts and the party's vested interests.

Out of bounds

IN THE past two months three top Oxford colleges have appointed female heads for the first time. While this is good news for the onward march of feminism, it is causing gnashing of teeth at the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club in Pall Mall, whose all-male membership policy is, some members claim, out of date.

Had the candidates been men, the club, founded in 1821, would have offered them full, free membership. As it is Dr Jessica Rawson, Marilyn Butler and Averil Cameron, who are to take over at Merton, Exeter and Keble, will be allowed into the club only provided they do not invade the sanctity of the morning room bar, the library, or aspire to membership.

This summer chauvinist elements blocked a move to grant women equal status. The next challenge, says club secretary Jeremy Colman, is likely to be five years away: "There is a time limit about how often major rule changes may be considered." Rawson, Butler



encourage them to stay — their votes will be needed."

● More from clubland, this time from the Garrick, where the blackballing of Jeremy Paxman has rent the club in two. The writer Milton Shulman was so incensed at the decision that he threatened to resign from the general selection committee. Now his passion has cooled, he is "considering his position". Shulman, furious at the rule which allows anonymous blackballing, would like to see Paxman reappointed. He says: "At the meeting Jeremy Paxman got more praise than he ever had in his life." Lord Rees-Mogg's doubts, expressed on this page, are shared by many members. One says: "Terry Wogan's application earlier this year went through on the nod. It says something curious that chatshow host who hasn't said boo to a goose gets accepted and one of our best journalists gets turned down."

Pig's breakfast

The Good Food Guide, the benchmark of restaurant taste, is in crisis. It has been



DIARY

editorless since the expiry of Tom Jaine's contract, and its publisher, the Consumers' Association, has failed to find a replacement. It is to readvise the job this week.

The post seems to be a poisoned chalice. The advertisements that first appeared in early summer did not mention the precise nature of the job... because they hadn't yet interviewed. According to one interviewee, the Consumers' Association "do not know what they want. It's a good guide but it was like being interviewed by the KGB — the people are so grim."

The restaurateur Antony Worrall-Thompson, who was asked by the Consumers' Association to suggest names, says it is a "nightmare job. I would not recommend it to anyone. It's rather like taking on Graham Taylor's job."

● How the memory fades. Neil Kinnock was in Brussels over the weekend at the launch of the Party of European Socialists. Was he also checking up in his son, Stephen, who has just started work as research assistant to the Labour MEP Gary Titley? Apparently not. According to Kinnock, "Stephen's been keeping an eye on me. 'Hello, you must be Stephen's father.'"

Hot seat

IT'S Bill Cash's big day today. The "barney" anti-Maastricht MP appears before a public enquiry in an attempt to stop the Boundary Commission stripping away huge rural tracts of his Stafford seat. Under the proposals, Cash will lose 24,000 voters, mainly Conservatives, and gain

13,000 of a less blue hue. The change could mean the end of his 19,900 majority. With ill-concealed glee party HQ has noted that drastic reshaping will, in any case, force Cash to go through reselection, where his revolts on Europe and pit closures could be held against him. Cash, however, is undeterred. "People would need to look at what I have achieved and argued for. My voting record, apart from Maastricht and coal, speaks for itself." Yes, quite.

Big sisters

THIS will be a frightening winter in Somerset. On December 17 *Cinderella* kicks off at Yeovil's Octagon Theatre, with what are believed to be the fastest pair of ugly sisters ever — Arthur "Chubby" Oates (16 stone) and Steve King (20 stone). They are hoping their run will land them in *The Guinness Book of Records*. Oates, a comedian, is looking forward to the physical nature of the performance. "It's not easy thrusting yourself in and out of bloomers if you're 16 stone. We get quite a lot of exercise just putting our bras on."

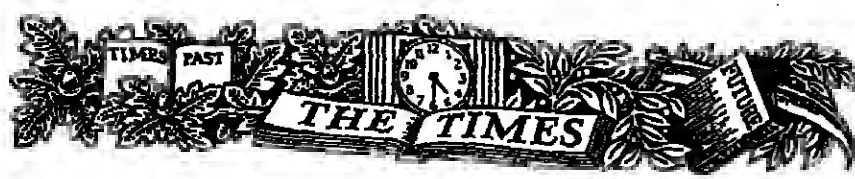
The militant mandarin

SIR Nicholas Henderson, one of Britain's most respected former ambassadors, is about to perform the most undiplomatic act. Against the advice of both the Cabinet Office and Foreign Office, he is to publish his memoirs next spring, five years after completing the book. Frustrated at the government's refusal to give approval, he has decided to risk all — even a breach of the Official Secrets Act — to have his book published.

Henderson, British ambassador to Washington at the time of the Falklands war and formerly our man in Poland, Germany and France, has been told that his memoirs breach the 1976 Radcliffe Rules controlling the memoirs of ministers and civil servants. He sounds past caring: "What former ministers publish in their memoirs makes a mockery of the Radcliffe Rules. I've never been told what was wrong so I'm going ahead anyway." *Mandarin* will include a full account of the Falklands war and his spell in Washing-



ton. This will, he says, include details of my meetings with ministers. This breaks new ground. Those who have read the book, however, say Henderson's revelations about Europe are as interesting as his descriptions of machinations over the Falklands, and his portrayal of Reagan particularly acute. To which the Cabinet Office says: "People who do not abide by the guidelines risk breaching the Official Secrets Act."



LABOUR'S LOST CHANCE

Smith is handing the Tories ammunition over Europe

Next year's European elections will be the first nationwide test of public opinion since the general election. The result could determine John Major's continuing hold on the leadership of the Tory party. This poll therefore presents a great opportunity for the Opposition. Yet it is an opportunity that Labour shows all the signs of missing.

This weekend, John Smith flew to Brussels to help launch the European socialist manifesto for those elections. It calls for a substantial cut in working time — to 35 hours or four days a week — and for majority voting in the European Council, which would deprive Britain of its veto. Even though Mr Smith has asserted that Labour is not bound by these promises, the document has given the Conservatives much-needed ammunition for a battle in which they start out at a disadvantage.

Mr Smith has never tried to hide his enthusiasm for Europe. He voted against his party whip in 1971 over EC membership. He rightly sensed then that the Labour party was behind the times in its opposition to Europe. He must have pledged that, if he ever became leader, he would turn the party round to embrace the EC.

Neil Kinnock did that for him. But, as is often the case with the Labour party, he caught a wave just as it was about to break. British enthusiasm for the EC did increase in the 1980s. Asked by MORI whether they would vote for or against membership in a referendum, 68 per cent supported membership in 1990, compared with 29 per cent in 1980. But just as Labour has fallen in love not just with the EC, but with the overbearing ambitions of its most federalist members, British voters have turned against it.

It took the collapse of the exchange-rate mechanism and the arguments surrounding the Maastricht treaty to persuade Britons that the pace of European integration was too fast. Now 56 per cent oppose a single

European currency, with only 29 per cent supporting it. And just 18 per cent want the pound to rejoin the ERM. Yet Labour advocates both economic and monetary union and a single currency.

Mr Smith is apparently keen to strengthen Labour's pro-European credentials at a time when the Conservatives are sending out confusing signals on the EC. But there is no point in having clear-cut policies if they are unpopular. Voters may prefer to vote for a Tory fudge, particularly if the fudge has a patriotic flavour.

The Tories will certainly be vulnerable next June. Their MEPs are affiliated to the European People's Party, which is unashamedly federalist. Many of the Conservative candidates will be federalists themselves but will have to fight their seats on a more sceptical manifesto. Labour could make capital out of this hypocrisy, but the task will be harder if the EPP's vision of an integrated Europe is one that Labour itself endorses.

Mr Smith could have outflanked the Conservatives on Europe. Both the collapse of the ERM in July and the ratification of Maastricht provided excuses for a fresh start. He could easily have portrayed Maastricht as the high tide mark of integration while setting out a new policy in which accountability and the preservation of national diversity were the main aims.

Instead he has shown himself attached to all the old shibboleths and prisoner to all the old producer interests. Labour reversed its attitude to the EC in the first place because the Community looked as if it could impose employment legislation on Britain which a Tory government would never have introduced. That was a counsel of despair from a party that seemed condemned to perpetual opposition. If Mr Smith were really confident of forming a future government, he might be keener than he is to protect national sovereignty.

MESSAGE TO PYONGYANG

North Korea needs a sharp jolt from the world

For months, while the Clinton administration has been tackling the relative simplicity of Somalia, America's most pressing foreign policy dilemma has been brewing in north-east Asia. If the latest signals from North Korea are to be believed, America should turn its gaze there. It is no longer wise to leave to chance resolution of the problems posed by Kim Il Sung's plans to develop nuclear weapons.

North Korea is stretching the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to breaking point. Each time the Pyongyang government seems about to reopen its programme to international inspection it changes its mind. A United Nations preparatory resolution on sanctions against Pyongyang, if it continues to ignore the requirements of the International Atomic Energy Agency, is already in place. The difficulty comes in enforcing it.

The Chinese used to enjoy access, but since Peking took the side-road to capitalism the two governments have drawn apart. Chinese interest in keeping the Korean peninsula free of nuclear weapons is clear. But Peking is also unwilling to do much to weaken a regime which provides a buffer between itself and the rest of the world.

The news that the North Korean government has put its troops on a higher level of readiness has come at the same time as evidence that the economy has been shrinking for three years. The regime may be pressed to do something drastic merely to preserve itself. The story-faced men of Pyongyang keep their own citizens in the dark but they are extremely well informed about conditions south of the demilitarized

zone and are under no illusions that the nuclear ace is their only card left.

So far it has not won them the financial assistance and investment that they want from Japan and the United States. But closing Pyongyang's few remaining windows through sanctions has risks too. The West does not enjoy particularly good relations with China at the moment and China alone could make sanctions work since it is the principal source of North Korean oil and grain. Sanctions, too, could bring what Seoul fears most and for which it is totally unprepared: the rapid collapse of the northern regime and millions of refugees flooding into and destabilising the south. Liberals in Seoul call for financial aid to keep the present regime in place until it dies a natural death.

The Kim regime will go sooner or later but the arms race that the present uncertainty is encouraging is making the region look like the cockpit of war that it has been all too often in the past century. Japan is already talking of establishing a massive new missile system to counter North Korea. China and South Korea are intent on building more powerful navies. And the shift of Russian military power to the far east is already a cause for concern.

The United Nations must move to sanctions. China will have to be persuaded that its own interest will be served by their efficacy. And Seoul will have to accept that the alternative to South Korean troops holding back their brothers at the Cold War's last frontier could be war of a rather hotter kind.

A RIGHT TO LIFE

Parents cannot condemn their children to die

A father will have begun serving a 30-month prison sentence this weekend for the manslaughter of his child. His wife, who was complicit, has received an 18-month suspended sentence. Their crime did not involve violence or deliberate cruelty, but willful ignorance and what the judge in the case described as "zealotry".

Dwight Harris and his wife, Beverly, refused to permit their nine-year-old daughter, Nahkira, to be injected with the insulin she required as treatment for diabetes. As a consequence, she wasted away and fell into a fatal coma. Her parents had been left in no doubt about the urgent need for treatment. Medical staff had given a stark warning: without insulin, the child would die. But the Harrises refused to accept this judgment.

They objected that modern medicine was against their "religious and cultural" principles and that Nahkira was afraid of injections. They sought homeopathic treatment instead, and watched their daughter's condition deteriorate to the point where she could no longer be saved. The fact that they took her to hospital themselves when she was in a coma suggests that they were still sincere in their efforts to help her. No one has suggested that they made any attempt to conceal the facts of her death.

In cases where such conflicts have arisen in the past over families with religious prohibitions on blood transfusions or surgery, children have sometimes been made wards of court so that legal permission for treatment could be secured. Given that insulin treatment for chronic diabetes is not a one-off medical intervention, such a solution

may be more problematic in this case. In order to guarantee continuous proper medication, the courts would presumably have had to assume permanent legal guardianship. If her parents had refused to administer or supervise injections themselves, foster care might have been required.

This is a peculiarly tragic case in which a child has died completely unnecessarily as a result of her parents' views. While they were clearly culpable, the Harrises were not guilty of malice or deliberate inhumanity. In some respects, they may have been more conscientious about their responsibilities than many parents whose fecklessness or indifference never happen to produce fatal consequences. Defence counsel, Nicholas Price QC, remarked that Nahkira's death had shattered the nucleus of an exceptionally close family.

But there can be no question of the correctness of the verdict. Parents, whatever their own beliefs, have an absolute moral duty to protect their child's life and well-being. Mr Justice Tucker had told the couple that they should not expect leniency. Although he accepted that they were "loving and caring parents", he could not permit their awesome decision to go unpunished. Given their grief and remorse over their child's death, the question arises of whether a custodial sentence was appropriate. Although it may seem harsh to add to this particular couple's suffering, it is unquestionably right for the law to state unambiguously that parents may not indulge their own opinions at the cost of their children's lives.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Call for two-tier Community defence

From Field Marshal Lord Carver

Sir, In his article of October 20, "Who is protecting what?", Simon Jenkins asks a number of provocatively pertinent questions about what our, and the North Atlantic alliance's, foreign/defence policy is or should be, that would justify the scale and organisation of our armed forces.

I would not take quite as optimistic a view as he does — there is a potential threat to Europe and its interests from the Middle East and North Africa — but I agree that a much more radical reappraisal is needed than has yet been applied.

The current Nato command structure is extravagantly inappropriate to present and future needs. It should be dismantled, but the North Atlantic alliance should be retained for three principal functions:

1. To support the defence of Europe west of the frontiers of Russia, the Ukraine and Belarus by balancing their nuclear weapons and helping to balance, if necessary, the conventional threat they pose to their neighbours.
2. To support the countries of southern Europe by the presence of a fleet in the Mediterranean.
3. To provide a forum for consultation for cooperation in the support of common interests worldwide. If any of those involve the employment of European forces, either on an integrated or a national basis, with US forces, the former should accept that the United States would exercise operational command.

The European Community already provides security to its members, in that it is not only inconceivable that any of its members should fight each other but that it would in practice be very difficult for them to do so. It is due for enlargement.

The larger the Community, the less appropriate would be some form of integrated military set-up to train, and possibly command in operations, the forces of all its members, particularly as the next four applicants are so-called neutrals (whatever that may mean in present circumstances). Although, desirably, all members of the EC ought to accept the same obligations, I foresee considerable difficulty in insisting on that in the defence field.

The future Community (or Union) needs a two-tier security system. At its heart it needs a more or less integrated element which must include Britain, France and Germany, and should also embrace, if possible, at least the Benelux countries and Italy.

It should establish a command organisation, which would train the forces of its members together, standardise their procedures and equipment, and be capable of commanding them in operations as well as commanding the forces of any other members of the Community who chose to participate. The forces of other members could be associated, permanently or temporarily, with that central core to the degree that the particular nation wished.

As with Nato, forces would remain under national command until placed under the integrated command for a specific operation. It would be desirable that all members of the Community should be members of the North Atlantic alliance, whose guarantee that an attack on any one member would be regarded as an attack on all would then certainly have to be modified.

It is time that the North Atlantic Council grasped this nettle firmly, but the only real hope of progress lies in the initiative being taken by the USA.

Yours truly,
CARVER FM,
House of Lords,
November 5.

Islamist threat to 'offensive' thinkers

From Mr Salman Rushdie

Sir, Dr Salah Ezz (letter, November 4), in referring to the "depth of resentment" felt by "Muslims" over my novel *The Satanic Verses*, falls into the trap of treating Islam as monolithic — an error which he (and the Prince of Wales, extracts of whose speech you published on October 28) would criticise others for making.

May I draw your readers' attention to the publication in France of an important anthology, *Four Rushdies*, in which 100 of the most distinguished intellectual and artistic figures of the Muslim and Arab world have made emphatic and courageous statements, many of them actively defending *The Satanic Verses* as a work of art.

All of them are uncompromising in their opposition to the Khomenei *fatwa* which, in spite of the recent shooting of the publisher William Nygaard in Norway, neither Dr Ezz nor the Prince of Wales thought worthy of mention.

Nor is the attack on *The Satanic Verses* a unique case. The use of accusations of "offensiveness" to launch murderous threats against intellectuals has been seen in Turkey, where a local businessman has publicly offered large sums of money for the murder of the writer Aziz Nesin, and in Bangladesh, where Islamist fanatics have offered a bounty for the death of the novelist Tasleema Nasreen. The murderers of two other major progressive figures, the Algerian Tahar Djaout and the Egyptian Farag Fouda, were also supposedly ridding the world of "offensive" thinkers.

As these examples show, the Prince of Wales is on thin ice when he warns

against "giving offence", and makes no reference to what most people, Muslim and non-Muslim, think of as really offensive: the burning of books, the murder of translators, the shooting of publishers, the worldwide assault launched by the forces of religious totalitarianism against freedom.

I agree with the prince that this is not the true face of Islam; but if we are to see that that face is one of freedom, tolerance and openness, then Muslims will have to find themselves better spokespersons than Dr Ezz and his likes.

Yours faithfully,
SALMAN RUSHDIE,
c/o Aiken, Stone & Wyllie Ltd,
29 Farnshaw Road, SW10,
November 4.

From the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia

Sir, The petulant comments of my old friend Dr Kalim Siddiqui (letter, November 4) on the Prince of Wales's magnificent speech remind me of the proverbial sour spinster at a joyful wedding.

It is only natural that a most intolerant gentleman like Dr Siddiqui would object to this most tolerant of calls to Muslims to respect Britain's "history, culture and way of life". I consider Dr Siddiqui's position the best compliment the speech is likely to receive.

Yours faithfully,
GHAFI ALGOSAIBI,
Ambassador,
Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia,
30 Charles Street, W1,
November 4.

Role of the National

From Mr A. M. Davies

Sir, Your report of Sir Peter Hall's talk at the Royal National Theatre ("Flailing the philistines", Arts, November 3) makes me wonder whether that institution deserves any subsidy, let alone an increased one.

Its current and future repertory offers not a single play pre-dating the 20th century (so much for the glorious riches of European drama over 2,500 years) but lists yet another American musical comedy, a two-part "epic drama" about America and the AIDS crisis, two plays by Alan Bennett, one by Tom Stoppard and three by David Hare. (Mr Stoppard is on the board of the National Theatre and Mr Hare is an associate director).

Is this the kind of repertory envisaged when the case for a state-subsidised theatre was being loudly argued prior to its establishment?

One does not have to take the austere but defensible view that a national theatre should concentrate on presenting the best works of the past, and not involve itself with the production of new plays, to wonder whether the three playwrights named have not by now achieved a reputation which should enable them to risk having their new plays presented on the commercial stage without the need for support from the taxpayer.

It seems ironic that the West End, rather than the National, has in recent months been able to offer Greek comedy (*Lystrata*), Greek tragedy (*Medea*), Shakespeare (*Much Ado*) and Goldsmith (*She Stoops to Conquer*), two of them directed by Peter Hall.

Is it not time for the appropriate authorities to consider whether the National is meeting its responsibilities?

Yours etc,
A. M. DAVIES,
92 Ulfeld Road, SW10.

Farming grumble

From Ms Belinda Price

Sir, With all the debate about the future shape of broadcasting, I wonder why the declining farming industry still commands 15 minutes of broadcasting time on weekday mornings (*Farming Today*, 40 minutes on Saturday (*The Farming Week*) and 25 minutes on Sundays (*On your Farm*)).

Why not a daily bulletin of current medical matters, of interest alike to those in medicine and patients, interesting legal cases, updates for teachers, developments in community care?

Why are farmers so privileged? Isn't it time for a radical review of early morning radio programmes?

Yours faithfully,
BELINDA PRICE,
3 Triggs Cottages,
Barrow Green, Teynham, Kent.

A wandering minstrel I

From Mr Andrew Nisbet

Sir, I derived great pleasure from solving 7 down in last Tuesday's crossword. "Japanese grandee to bear expression of contempt (4-3)". Answer: Posh-Bla.

The clue was solved during my homeward train journey from Glasgow Queen Street to Halesburg. On arrival at Halesburg, I went to the Victoria Halls to get ready to appear in the Halesburg Savoy's first-night performance of *The Mikado*.

With such portents, it hardly needs saying that the evening was a great success.

Yours etc,
ANDREW NISBET
(Japanese nobleman (part-time)),
Ty Rhw, Station Road,
Rhu, Dumfriesshire,
November 3.

Rape anonymity

From Miss Barbara Hewson

Sir, Senior judges often attack the media for "knee-jerk" reactions to individual rape sentences. It is therefore surprising to find the Lord Chief Justice, at yesterday's Law Society conference in Brighton, suggesting anonymity for rape defendants, seemingly on the strength of one, atypical prosecution of "date-rape".

A defendant is innocent until proven guilty. Why should named individuals, charged with rape, find the reporting of the case against them in open court more damaging than people accused of child murder or of murdering and maiming innocent civilians with a bomb. If subsequently acquitted?

We should be more concerned that, between 1985 and 1990, convictions for rape and attempted rape have apparently fallen from 25 per cent of cases reported to the police to fewer than 10 per cent. Those accused of this crime, it seems, are not being treated unfairly. If anything, it would seem unduly difficult to achieve a conviction.

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA HEWSON,
4 Raymond Buildings,
Gray's Inn, WCI,
October 31.

lighter sentences confirm her view that "women's only defence is not to be found in law but in purdah".

Women Against Rape doesn't know why the CPS prosecuted the Donnellan case, where the woman could not remember what happened, when it regularly won't prosecute where the woman clearly remembers refusing consent. But we do know how the Donnellan case has been used.

Home Secretary Michael Howard (report, October 25) has ordered an urgent review of anonymity in rape cases — to give the accused rapist anonymity and/or to further limit the victim's anonymity.

Sir Frederick Lawton, who chaired the committee which in 1984 recommended keeping the husband's immunity to rape charges, wants to "reconsider the definition of rape" since cases "now turn on consent (which) is extremely difficult to establish" (report, October 21). No sooner have the Lords finally confirmed that consent, and not relationship, is decisive, than we are urged to "reconsider".

Kate Muir ("Who hasn't been date raped?", October 21) quotes against women in the 20th century "the words of British jurist Matthew Hale" written in 1680: "it must be remembered that [rape] is an accusation easily to be made". Hale, a famous witch-hunting judge, was for 200 years the legal authority for husbands' right to rape, overturned in 1991 by the Law Lords. In fact, rape is one of the hardest accusations for anyone to make, and the obstacles to women reporting, let alone making frivolous charges, are formidable.

RSI judgment

From Mr George N. Jamieson

Sir, In the past repetitive strain injury (RSI) have been called writers' cramp (letters, November 3 and 5). Now, no doubt, this will be updated to Reuter's cramp.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE N. JAMIESON,
22 Cropwell Road,
Radcliffe-on-Trent, Staffordshire,
November 4.

In the soup

From Mr Alan Jobling

Sir, The Food Commission would appear to have got its stockings in a twist over the composition and labelling of chicken soup (report, November 1). Chicken soup is not a meat product and its quality depends on the content not of chicken meat but of chicken stock or extract, prepared by boiling the carcass, as any thrifty housewife knows.

Chicken extract is not defined as meat under the rather quirky UK meat products regulations. A clear pure chicken bouillon would (and should) contain no chicken meat at all.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN JOBLING,
44 Luton Road,
Harpden, Hertfordshire.

A lesser variety?

From Mrs P. E. Harris

Sir, In addition to your other examples (letters, November 1 and 3), the compressed face powder which I use has increased in price from £3.75p to £4.25p, but decreased in weight from 16g to 14g.

Yours faithfully,
PHYLLIS E. HARRIS,
98 Wimbledon Hill Road, SW19.

From Mr M. G. de St V. Atkins

Sir, I have just bought a refill soap for my Crabtree and Evelyn shaving bowl. The packet in which its predecessor came showed its weight as "3.3oz, 96g". The replacement has its weight shown as "93g, 3.3oz".

The truth appears to be that the modern gram goes something like 5 per cent further than the old one. Oh, the magic of Maastricht!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
M. G. de St V. ATKINS,
Cross House, Whitkington,
via Carnforth, Lancashire.

Letters to the editor that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5045

NEWS

Pension warning for under-40s

■ Michael Portillo, Chief Secretary to the Treasury gave his most explicit warning to date that the government is considering ways of cutting state pensions for future generations.

His far-reaching vision of a much reduced welfare state would dramatically affect all those under 40. Mr Portillo, aged 40, said that people of his own generation had to be encouraged to accept that they should make greater provision for pensions that will fall due next century. Page 1

Race for the first female ordination

■ Angela Berners-Wilson is on course to be the Church of England's first woman priest. If plans proceed without a hitch Mrs Berners-Wilson, aged 39, will be the first of about 40 deacons to be ordained on March 12 in Bristol. Page 1

Jury ruling

Government ministers are expected to shelve controversial plans which would have removed a defendant's right to trial by jury. Page 1

Ulster hope

Northern Ireland could see peace before Christmas if John Major joins Dublin in taking political risks, Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister, said. Page 1

Korea threatened

President Clinton issued a thinly veiled military threat to North Korea, warning of grave consequences in the event of an invasion of South Korea. His threat came amid growing concern over Pyongyang's nuclear-weapons programme. Pages 1, 13

Major's challenge

A determined attempt by John Major to stamp his authority on the government and the formulation and execution of policy was signalled by senior members of the cabinet. Page 2

Hunt anger

Angry incidents involving hunters and saboteurs were reported at the weekend after members of the National Trust voted overwhelmingly against a ban on hunting on the 580,000 acres it owns. Page 3

BMA condemnation

Doctors who refuse to treat smokers or drinkers because they disapprove of their lifestyle were condemned by the British Medical Association. Page 5

Modern statues under attack

■ The quality of new public sculpture is coming under repeated attack with controversies in Preston, Gateshead, Birmingham and Jersey demonstrating that people can be as hostile to life-like statues as to abstract works. A newspaper reported "sackfuls of mail" in protest at a sculpture in Preston portraying workers shot during a strike in 1842. Page 7

92-year-old's run

The first car to arrive in the London-Brighton veteran car run was a 1901 Renault type E racing two-seater. Another 329 reached the town pier. Page 6

Useless classes

Hundreds of private colleges are running courses with unqualified staff, providing poor levels of education and offering useless certificates and diplomas. Page 7

Doughnut danger

Government, local authorities and traders fear that "the doughnut syndrome" — fat shopping developments on the edges of urban areas — are destroying the fabric of towns. Page 9

Blood scandal

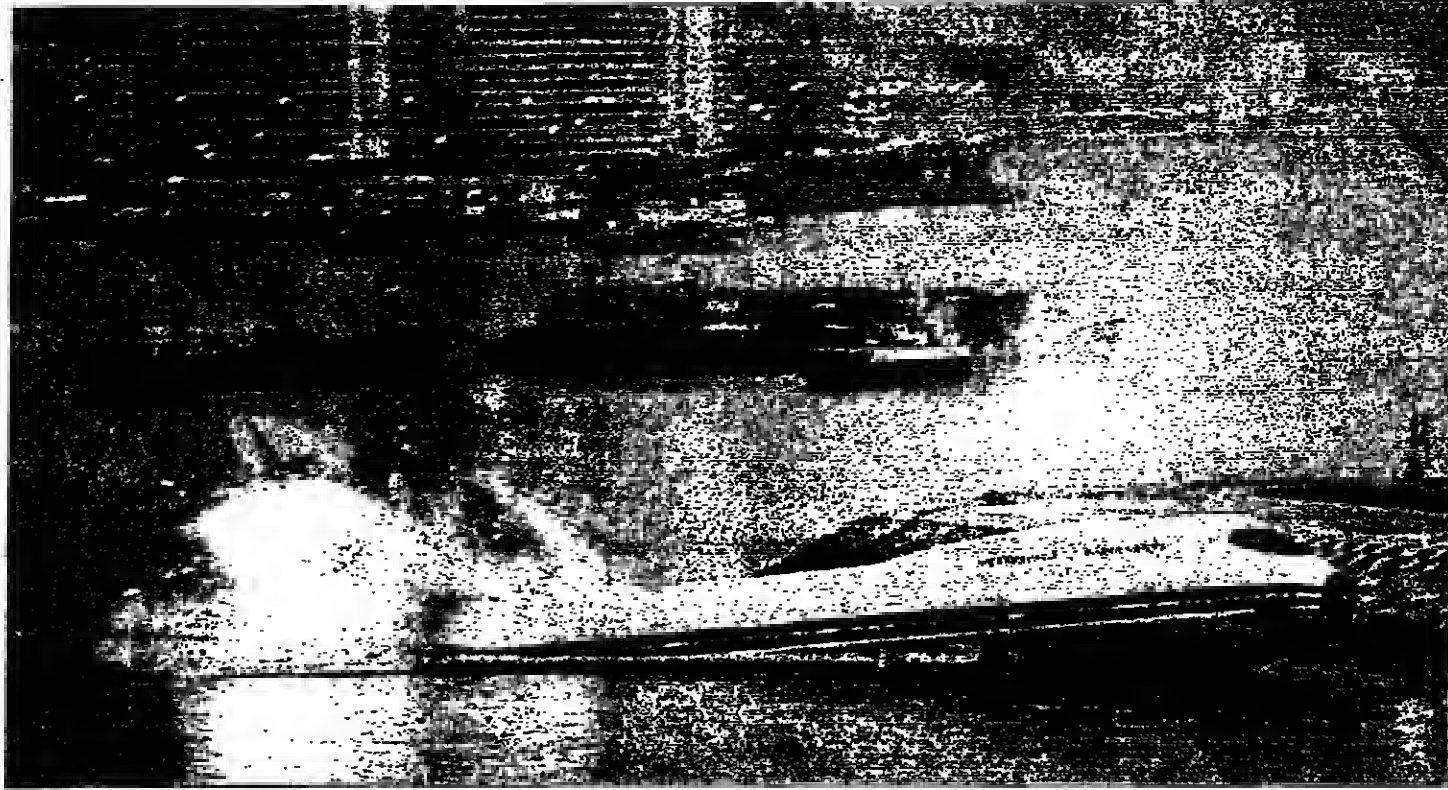
Germany's contaminated blood scandal, which has sent tens of thousands of people scurrying for HIV tests, could have been prevented if politicians had heeded a critical report. Page 10

Bolshevik ban

Police in Moscow dispersed marchers marking the 76th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, forcing diehard communists to shift to a venue outside the city for the first time. Page 11

Wellington woe

Jim Bolger, the New Zealand prime minister, called for calm as his country woke up to the prospect of its first minority government in 65 years and with Mr Bolger's recovery programme in disarray. Page 12



The tail of a Taiwanese jumbo jet which skidded off the runway at Hong Kong, being blown up because it was a danger to landing aircraft

BUSINESS

Economy: The Confederation of British Industry will deal a blow to the Chancellor when it reveals it has sharply downgraded its economic forecast. The Institute of Directors reports that the proportion of directors who are optimistic has fallen to 42 per cent. Page 40

Japan turns back: Japanese industrialists can no longer be relied on to invest in plants in Britain as their attention has switched to problems at home. Page 38

Queens Most Houses: Shareholders in troubled Queens Most Houses have received a delayed annual report showing the extent of losses, and a previously undisclosed bonus payment. Page 40

SPORT

Golf: Colin Montgomerie succeeded Nick Faldo as the year's top European money-winner by capturing the Volvo Masters title at Valderrama. The Scot won by one stroke. Page 28

Boxing: Evander Holyfield plans to unify the world heavyweight crown after his points victory over Riddick Bowe in Las Vegas. This is likely to mean a fight next spring against Britain's Lennox Lewis, the WBC champion. Page 23

Football: Manchester United maintained their 11 point lead at the top of the FA Carling Premiership by coming back from two goals down to beat Manchester City 3-2 at Maine Road. Page 21

FEATURES

Not quite Kennedy: The John F. Kennedy mystique has become invulnerable to denigration. Martin Fletcher on Clinton's efforts to bask in his glory. Page 14

Perky, snappy, zippy: American designers are creating fashions for women who don't want fashion with a capital 'F'. Page 15

In memoriam: Libby Purves laments the demise of her mother's final Derby, the family's Citroën 2CV. Page 14

ARTS

Time for a change: Phil Collins is the rock star who has already sold more than 35 million albums. Yet he would still like to be taken a bit more seriously as a singer-songwriter, as his album, *Both Sides* is designed to prove. Page 29

Consuming drama: First it was a play, then it was that famous film starring Elizabeth Taylor. Now *Suddenly Last Summer*, Tennessee Williams's passionate tale of cannibalism and coverup, has been adapted for television. Page 29

Short and sharp: Harold Pinter's new play may be only 75 minutes long but as his West End transfer confirms, *Moonlight* will amuse, agitate and delight. Page 30

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Growing pangs

■ Every week the British child consumes three bags of chips, four packets of crisps, six cans of drink, seven bars of chocolate, 42 biscuits and seven puddings. Bully for them, says Bernard Levin

Judging the judges

■ Derek Holden, a circuit judge, supports the Royal Commission's proposals for performance appraisal

Banking on it

■ As theatres and orchestras around Britain cry out for cash, a new book calls into question the very idea of public subsidy for the arts



The Princess of Wales was considering legal action after the *Sunday Mirror* published colour photographs of her exercising in a gym. Page 1

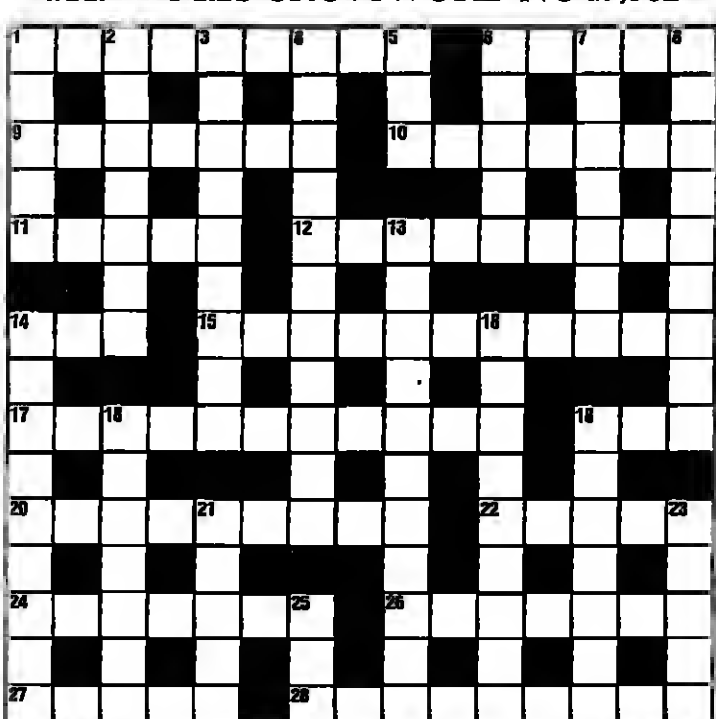


Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the Royal Marsden Hospital, which is threatening to sue for libel over a government report into its cancer research. Page 6



Jordan holds its first multi-party elections for four decades at a time when King Hussein may have reached an understanding with Israel. Page 13

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,382



ACROSS

- 1 As a rule, it makes a small boy tease (9)
- 6 Bloomer made by University student in extremity (5)
- 9 Experiencing a smack? (7)
- 10 He's responsible for supervising time set by crew at head of river (7)
- 11 Doctor joining English ship to carry out treatment (5)
- 12 Cuts speed — accident thought probable (9)
- 14 Hesitation shown before opening of giant work unit (3)
- 15 Ever present during the sports, whatever happens? (2,3,6)
- 17 One looking for a place to keep a horse? (5-6)
- 19 Pass for an officer? (3)
- 20 Somehow manage to comprehend directions for extraction of mineral (9)
- 22 Entire collection of books to share (5)

DOWN

- 1 Opening dinner initially held in college (5)
- 2 Obtains inside information for raising money (4-3)
- 3 Arrange restoration in gallery under controls (9)
- 4 Commons cricket side overdue — about half-hour (11)
- 5 Tuber served in many a meal (3)
- 6 Continental heavyweight announced (5)
- 7 Answer points to provide illumination (7)
- 8 Nowadays in the capital, a lake is heavenly (9)
- 13 Instant support following divorce (5-6)
- 14 Produce me a helper — but only for a day (9)
- 16 One constituent of State hand-out showing change (9)
- 18 It's mundane to travel incognito (7)
- 19 Bowman first to join subversive group (7)
- 21 Request for repetition of article plus advance (5)
- 23 Suspicion can upset say (5)
- 25 Cat repeatedly beaten (3)

KNOCKANDS

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,381 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a stationary rack

Concise Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCAST

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon & Cornwall	703
Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset	704
West Midlands	705
North Midlands	706
Yorkshire & Lancashire	707
North East	708
West Midlands & Wales	709
South East	710
East Midlands	711
Lincoln & Humberside	712
Yorkshire & Cleveland	713
W. & N. England	714
W. & S. Wales & Wales	715
N. & E. England	716
Cumbria & Lake District	717
S. & W. Scotland	718
W. Central Scotland	719
E. Central Scotland	720
Edinburgh & Borders	721
Grampian & E. Highlands	722
W. & N. Scotland	723
Orkney, Shetland & Islands	724
N. Ireland	725

Weathercast is charged at 38p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within N & S Circles)	732
M-way/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-way/roads M23-M25	734
M-way/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	737
National motorways	738
West Country	739
Wales	740
Midlands	741
East Angles	742
North-west England	743
North-east England	744
Scotland	745
Northern Ireland	746

AA Roadwatch is charged at 38p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Most places will have a dry day. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have bright spells at first, but become cloudy with rain spreading east in the evening. The rain will be heavy at times. It will become windy, with southerly winds reaching gale force in the northwest. A few light showers in England and Wales. Bright spells in western areas; dull in the southeast. Outlook: wet and windy on Tuesday; mainly dry and bright on Wednesday.

ABROAD

MONDAY: (i=thunder, d=dizzle, q=q= fog, s=sun, c=cloud, r=rain, f=fog, b=b, l=light, m=moderate, h=heavy, v=very, e=extreme, g=gale, s=sun, c=cloud, r=rain, f=fog, b=b, l=light, m=moderate, h=heavy, v=very, e=extreme, g=gale)

Algeria	14 57	r	Medrid	9 46	f
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s
Algeria	27 81	r	Madrid	18 54	s

AROUND BRITAIN

Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b
Avonmouth	12 11	b	Bright	11 52	b

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 4.52 pm to 8.36 am
Bristol 5.02 pm to 8.46 am
Edinburgh 4.48 pm to 8.04 am
Manchester 4.33 pm to 8.51 am
Penzance 5.18 pm to 8.54 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; l, light; m, mod; s, sun

Belfast	9 48	c	Guernsey	10 50	c
Belfast	9 48	c	Guernsey	10 50	c
Belfast	9 48	c	Guernsey	10 50	c
Belfast	9 48	c	Guernsey	10 50	c
Belfast	9 48	c	Guernsey	10 50	c

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	7.12	5.9	8.05	6.1	Liverpool	5.04	7.5	5.34	7.9
Aberdeen	7.12	5.9	8.05	6.1	Liverpool	5.04	7.5	5.34	7.9

NOON TODAY

London	12.11	10.2	1.04	10.5	London	12.11	10.2	1.04	10.5
London	12.11	10.2	1.04	10.5	London	12.11	10.2	1.04	10.5

TOURIST RATES

Australia \$	2.21	2.11
Australia \$	2.21	2.11
Australia \$	2.21	2.11

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Mildred Haven, Dyfed 14.0°C. Lowest day temp: Llanwrda, Carmarthen 7.0°C (dew). Highest night temp: Llanwrda, Carmarthen 10.0°C. Lowest night temp: Llanwrda, Carmarthen 6.5°C.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 8pm, 10C (50F); min 8pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 60%. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 10.0mm. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.1hr. Bar: mean sea level, 1000.5 millibars, rising.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 8pm, 10C (50F); min 8pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 60%. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 10.0mm. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.1hr. Bar: mean sea level, 1000.5 millibars, rising.

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 8pm, 11C (52F); min 8pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 60%. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 10.0mm. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.1hr. Bar: mean sea level, 1000.5 millibars, rising.

Information supplied by Met Office

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هكذا من الأصل



ARTS 29-30
Phil Collins rattles his musical cage



EDUCATION 33
Labour's sacked spokesman speaks out



GRAHAM SEARJEANT 38
Blip or imbalance: what is really troubling markets?

BOOKS ON MONDAY
Page 31

THE TIMES

MONDAY NOVEMBER 8 1993

Keane scores decisive late winner as City surrender two-goal lead in Manchester derby

Cantona inspires fightback by United

Manchester City 2
Manchester United 3

By Peter Ball

THERE was no message of hope for the rest of the FA Carling Premiership at Maine Road yesterday. Manchester United moved back 11 points clear at the top as they gave their neighbours a two-goal lead and a beating in one of the best of all the 119 Manchester derbies. It was a pulsating match, full of commitment, flowing football and high drama.

At the end it was impossible not to feel some sympathy for

TOP OF TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	14	12	1	1	30	12	37
Notwich	14	7	5	2	23	13	26
A Villa	14	7	5	2	17	11	26
Leeds	14	7	4	3	24	17	25
Liverpool	14	7	2	5	22	12	22
Arsenal	14	6	5	3	13	8	23
QPR	14	7	2	5	25	21	22
Blackburn	14	6	5	3	18	14	22

City, who played their part to the full, and must have thought that they were on course for an epic victory as they led 2-0 at half-time. Niall Quinn having made his mark with both goals in an outstanding all-round display. At that stage it looked as if United were destined to endure a horrible week after their exit from the European Cup.

"The half-time scoreline was an absolute travesty," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said. "At that stage I thought it was going to be one

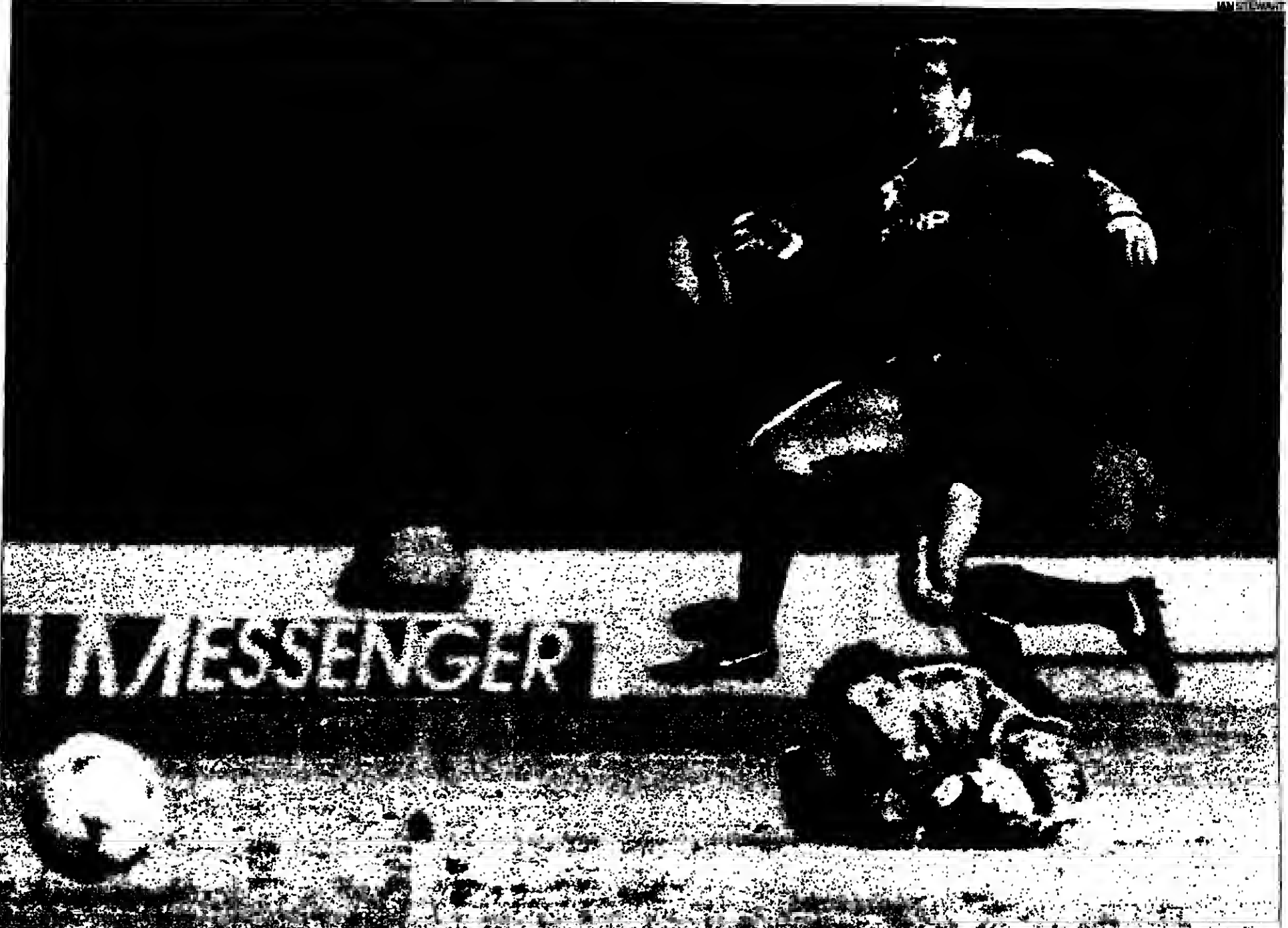
of those weeks." Instead, City's delight turned to despair as United showed their character and class to dominate the second half.

Quinn was upstaged by Cantona just as his team were upstaged by United. Even so, United needed some help. Vonk setting them on their way with a poorly directed header to send Cantona free to beat Coton seven minutes after the interval. That lit United's fire and it burned bright and irresistibly as they swept down upon City's defence in red waves.

For a time City held out and it took the introduction of Giggs, who had been left out after a disappointing performance in Istanbul, to provide the equaliser. His first touch, a curling cross, went past four City defenders to give Cantona a tap in for his second goal with 12 minutes remaining. "The substitution was excellent timing," Ferguson said dryly.

United were still not satisfied and Keane snatched the winner when he met Irwin's driven cross at the far post. The game inevitably had its flashpoints, Hughes expressing United's frustration as they fell two goals behind with a wild kick at McMahon and Curle mirroring his response with a bad tackle which leaves Cantona doubtful for France's World Cup qualifying game against Bulgaria in ten days' time, but the incidents which will linger long in the memory were all good ones. The back heel by Sharpe which sent Irwin free to set up Keane's winner stood out.

Keane deserved his goal, for



Coton, the Manchester City goalkeeper, is grounded as Cantona scores United's first goal to prompt a comeback from 2-0 down at Maine Road yesterday

he had been one of United's outstanding players, having had his best game for United. He and Irwin wrestled control of the midfield from the impressive Flitcroft and McMahon. The decision of Brian Horton, the City manager, to play three centre halves looked likely to hand United the initiative, and so it proved in the second half as Cantona pulled deep to pose an insolu-

ble problem. But even in the opening exchanges it looked a dangerous policy as Kanchelskis and Keane ran free into the unattended spaces behind Phelan on the City left. In the opening quarter United dominated and could easily have scored two or three goals, with Keane the central figure in the exchanges. With United looking more like the home team, Irwin's clever pass sent Keane

through the middle as the City defence parted, but the finish lacked authority and Coton saved at close range.

United were soon to regret their misses as City broke forward. United were overextended as Irwin's attempt to play a one-two on the edge of the penalty area failed and the ball was transferred quickly to Sheron, who carried the ball 40 yards before hitting a deep

cross to Quinn, who beat Schmeichel with a downward header. The underdogs were ahead, and Maine Road throbbed with joy.

The ecstasy was almost doubled immediately as Quinn broke again but Schmeichel saved with his feet. City were now rampant and United's defence looked increasingly at odds with itself. Quinn, not to be denied

for long, began a move by sending White clear and although White appeared to waste the opening, Phelan rescued the ball by the corner flag. McMahon crossed and Quinn got in front of Schmeichel to send his header looping into the empty net.

United responded in the style of champions, to put the disappointment of Istanbul firmly behind them. Ferguson

remains cautious, but this performance was ominous for all the pretenders.

MANCHESTER CITY (3-1-1-2): A. Coton - A. McMahon, K. Curle, M. Vonk - R. Egan, G. Flitcroft, S. McMahon, T. Phelan - M. Sheron - D. White, N. Quinn.
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P. Schmeichel - P. Parker, S. Bruce, G. Pallister, O. Iwobi - A. Kanchelskis (sub), R. Giggs, T. Sheron, R. Keane, L. Sharpe - E. Cantona, M. Hughes.
Referee: R. Hoyle.

Villa's late surge, page 26
Derby demolished, page 27

Starting mix-up prompts talks

By Julian Muscat

THE Jockey Club is to enter immediate discussions with Michael Caulfield, president of the Jockeys' Association, after the collapse of starting procedures at Chepstow on Saturday.

Janie Osborne, the rider of Leouard, was dragged to the ground by the neck as he tangled with the starting tape before the Tote Silver Trophy.

The incident called into question new starting procedures established in the wake of the mix-up which led to the abandonment of the Grand National in April and did not reflect well on Simon Morant, the Jockey Club's new chief starter, who will climb the rostrum to dispatch the 1994 Grand National.

A national line between two poles, situated five yards behind the start, was introduced last Monday with the intention of preventing horses crowding the tape. The new measure clearly failed to achieve its purpose.

David Pipe, the Jockey Club's director of public affairs, said yesterday: "The jockeys acknowledge they have a part to play. We could well modify the poles procedure but we would like to persevere with the idea for the time being." Morant's role as chief starter is not under threat, Pipe added.

French to rescue, page 24

All Blacks go to Scotland unbeaten

England A 12
New Zealanders 26

By David Hand
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

NEW Zealand depart for the Scottish leg of their tour today having steadily descended from the high point at which they began in England. In four matches now they have been unable to recapture the fluid rhythm of their encounter with London, and yesterday's penalty-ridden meeting with England A at the Gateshead Athletic Stadium typified what has gone before.

But they retain that remarkable capacity to absorb whatever the opposition may throw at them, a task made infinitely easier when the opposition do not start playing until they are 16 points adrift. Whether anything better should have been expected of an England A side beaten by two goals, three penalty goals and a dropped goal to four penalty goals is a moot point, but these days you cannot throw a side together over a long weekend and expect them to triumph.

England A had two training runs together and their lack of preparation was compounded when the unfortunate Jonathan Callard hurled a speculative pass towards Mike Catt, only to see Jeff Wilson intercept the ball and sprint 40 metres for seven points.

That Callard had the opportunity to kick three penalty goals before the interval to reduce the gap to 16-9 was fortunate, but no indication of a burgeoning England game. If these New Zealanders are to be beaten, something more innovative than a repetition of their own tactics must be tried against them.

There must be more precision to the English game, too. Three times England A created overlaps and three times they wasted them; part of that was due to New Zealand's ability to cover in depth at speed, part because the simple act of giving and taking a pass was not done well. As a result England could seldom develop much forward momentum (both sides suffered from the disruptive effects of 40 penalty awards) and their failure at the lineout added to the problems facing the national selectors.

A negative return of 27-11 at that phase was the result of expert play by Ian Jones and Blair Larsen, whose selection at blind-side flanker was well justified. Since Callard could

not improve substantially on his display for the South-West at Redruth a week earlier, the senior full back vacancy remains open and though Stuart Barnes kicked the angles well, it profited his team little because they could not win lineout possession.

Jack Rowell, the England A manager, pointed out that he had seen no patterns developing in New Zealand's play. "They have a young side, with one or two things to prove, but how they will systematically score tries I can't see," he said. Ominously he added that the best was yet to come, confirming the point made by Laurie Mains, New Zealand's coach: "We have to start cranking it up now."

Thus far the All Blacks have

enjoyed the cushion of Matthew Cooper's goalkicking in every game in which he has played. Cooper's accuracy has ensured that Grant Fox has scarcely been missed and yesterday he failed only once, the last and simplest penalty attempt.

Cooper's first two penalty goals and the conversion of Wilson's try placed England A under an early cloud. When Ellis dropped a goal which, conceivably, should not have been permitted since it followed a free kick and no opponent appeared to touch the ball, the hole from which England had to emerge was even deeper.

The third quarter encapsulated England's problem. They created pressure -

Hunter was stopped five metres out, Bracken was held on the line, Callard missed a penalty attempt - but they gained no points. When New Zealand broke the stranglehold, they scored immediately. England's back row broke right to anticipate a move from a set scrum which Foster then took in the other direction, flanking with Pece to such effect that Tunn was able to flow into the line and through a yawning chasm for a try.

Callard and Cooper exchanged long-range penalty goals, but the die was cast. The All Blacks go north of the Border with a perfect record of five wins. "We expect the Scots to run the ball at us more," Mains said. If they do it as indifferently as English teams have done, his side will enjoy themselves.

SCOTLAND: England A: Penalty goals: Callard (4). New Zealanders: Tries: Wilson, Tunn. Conversions: Cooper (2). Penalty goals: Cooper (3). Dropped goal: Ellis.
ENGLAND A: J. Callard (Capt); I. Hunter (Northampton), O. Hopley (Worcester), M. Catt (Bath), P. Hall (Bristol), S. Barnes (Bath), K. Bracken (Bristol), G. Hastings (Leicester), G. Davies (Bath), A. Mullins (Hertfordshire), J. Hall (Bath, captain), N. Redman (Bath), O. Sims (Gloucester), M. Back (Leicester), T. Reddie (Northampton), S. Gilchrist (Bath) temporary replacement for Redman.
NEW ZEALANDERS: J. Tunn (Otago), J. Wilson (Otago), F. Bruce (North Harbour), M. Cooper (Waikato), V. Tugumele (Auckland), M. Ellis (Otago), S. Foster (Otago), C. David (Auckland), S. Fitzpatrick (Auckland), captain, O. Brown (Auckland), S. Larsen (North Harbour), I. Jones (Northampton), S. Gordon (Waikato), Z. Brooke (Auckland), A. Pene (Otago).
Referee: R. Morgan (Scotland).

Philippe Sella, the French centre, set a world record of 94 international caps at Parc des Princes on Saturday but was on the losing side as Australia exacted revenge for their defeat the previous weekend with a crushing 24-3 victory. For Australia, Marty Roeback contributed a try, a conversion and four penalty goals.

France's big win, page 22
Weekend results, page 22



Redman, left, and Barnes gang up on Dowd, the All Blacks prop, yesterday

"Choose a good brandy.
That way, as the
evening wears on,
only the anecdotes
begin to lack taste."

BILL BRIDSON,
51-YEAR-OLD SURFER, CALIFORNIA.

INTRODUCE SOME CALIFORNIAN INTO
THE CONVERSATION.

E&J
SINGLE CASK MATURED BRANDY.

Tigers savage tame Giants

By Russell Kempson

MANCHESTER Giants faced a big enough task away to Thames Valley Tigers, the in-form side of the Budweiser Basketball League, but the mission took on mountainous proportions when Jeff Jones, their coach, disappeared home to the United States to resolve "family business". Not surprisingly, it all proved too much.

Tigers streaked to a 104-82 victory at Bracknell Sports Centre to jump over Giants into second place in the table. Added to recent runaway triumphs over Worthing Bears and Guildford Kings, their other title rivals, and complemented by a 100-94 overtime success at Derby Bucks on Saturday, Tigers are in an aggressive mood. Since the loss against London Towers, their only defeat of the season, they have reeled off five consecutive league wins and now trail Worthing, the leaders, by two points but with two games in hand. Mike Obaseki, their 6ft 7in power forward, is also due to return after recovering from a broken nose, which has kept him out of the last three matches.

Tigers cut down Giants on Friday with a destructive display that produced a lead of 60-39 at half-time. The absence of Jones — Brian Dobson, his assistant, took charge — may not have made any difference. "No excuses. They just beat us," Rick Taylor, the Manchester owner, said.

Jones also missed the game against Sunderland yesterday, but will be back for the meeting with Guildford on Thursday. "There's no mystery," Taylor said. "It was something that cropped up in the States and Jeff had to go to sort it out."

Hemel Hempstead registered their first league victory, at the tenth attempt, when they defeated Leicester Riders 92-87, while Guildford forgot their midweek European Cup humiliation by Olympiakos — 96-51 in Greece — by seeing off Chester Jets 84-74. Julio Pollit's four three-pointers in a row at the start of the fourth quarter proved decisive.

Panthers scrape narrow victory

NOTTINGHAM Panthers gained a 5-4 victory over Cardiff Devils, while Murrayfield Racers scored an impressive 11-3 win over Durham Wasps in the first leg games of the Benson and Hedges ice hockey cup semi-finals. (Norman de Mesquita writes).

The Devils made a fine start in Nottingham. Stephen Cooper scoring after only 30 seconds, but that was the only lapse on the part of Steve Butler in the Nottingham goal, and he was the main difference between the teams. In spite of a temporary lapse in concentration early in the second period, the Panthers scraped home in a thriller.

In the first period at Murrayfield, the teams shared four goals and several minutes of penalties as a skirmish saw the referee, Paul Branch, send the teams to their dressing rooms with 93 seconds remaining in the period and eject Mike Ware, of the Racers, and Bruce Coles, of the Wasps. The Racers took control after the resumption.

In premier division action, Peterborough Pirates, using Nottingham as their home rink, showed little spirit while losing 9-2 to Sheffield Steelers. There is hope for them, however, and they expect to be back in their own rink by the middle of next month when they will be able to concentrate on strengthening the team.

RESULTS: Benson and Hedges Cup: Semi-finals: First leg: Murrayfield Racers 11, Durham Wasps 3; Nottingham Panthers 5, Cardiff Devils 4. British League: Premier Division: Beesley Bears 5, Whitby Wrens 1; 1st Fivers 9, Bracknell Bees 1; 2nd Fivers 5, Peterborough Pirates 2. First division: Durham Wasps 5, Macclesfield Bears 6; Milton Keynes Kings 3, Blackpool Hawks 3; Lough Valley Lions 18, Paisley Pirates 1; South Jers 7, Strathgordon Redskins 3; Swanton Wildcats 7, Guildford Flames 3; Telford Tigers 11, Trafford Metros 4.



His guard breached, Bowe feels the full force of Holyfield's right hand as he concedes his WBA and IBF heavyweight titles to the former champion in Las Vegas

Holyfield punctures bloated Bowe

LENNOX Lewis has hit the jackpot — thanks to Evander Holyfield. Only two days ago, Lewis's representatives, Panos Eliades and Frank Maloney, were offered a split of 90 per cent/10 per cent of a \$30 million purse by Riddick Bowe's manager, Rock Newman, to meet Bowe in the spring. Newman was showing no signs of moving from that position. Now with Holyfield's points victory over Bowe at Caesars Palace on Saturday, Lewis can expect at least \$12 million, as a 60-40 split in Holyfield's favour as he holds the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles while Lewis has the World Boxing Council belt.

The bout itself was full of dramatic incident. The seventh round was interrupted for 20 minutes because of a crash-landing by a parachutist upon the ring apron, causing Bowe's wife, Judy, pregnant three months, and others to be taken to hospital suffering from shock. Eddie Futch, Bowe's 82-year-old trainer, also received hospital attention because of palpitations after the bout; and, during the contest, there were bad-tempered exchanges between the boxers when they

refused to break off at the bell and engaged in fistfists beyond the call of duty.

At the end, both Maloney and Newman, who promoted Holyfield and Lewis, seemed visibly relieved that they would no longer have to deal with Newman. Duva would not say whether Holyfield would be meeting Lewis next or when the bout would be.

Holyfield is contracted to defend against Michael Moorer, because Bowe was to have made a mandatory defence against Moorer in the spring and Holyfield, as the new champion, is obliged to honour the last incumbent's commitments. Holyfield is a man of his word and, if necessary, he will go through with the title bout against Moorer, but he wants to unify the title and Duva, who is also Moorer's promoter, should not have too much trouble inducing the challenger to step aside for a financial consideration and a promise of a first challenge against the winner.

Maloney said: "I think we'll get 60-40 on this fight without any problem. We expect the purse to be \$30 million at a conservative estimate. It all depends on pay-per-view figures. Lennox and Evander are two of the most competitive



Srikumar Sen watches the heavyweight scene change on a bizarre night in Las Vegas

fighters I have met. It's going to be a great fight. Whoever has the greatest desire to win will lift the title because both fighters are skilful fighters and always extremely fit.

"There are a few complications, such as Michael Moorer, to take care of, but it will be worked out and it will be a contest for the benefit of boxing. The winners tonight were the fans because now we have got two heavyweights who are a credit to boxing and you can be sure when they get into the ring they will be 100 per cent fit, not like Bowe tonight, who weighed at least 246lb and looked like a fat boy.

"I'm glad that I won't have to deal with Newman and Bowe again because they have been nightmares and I'm glad they are out of my life. Bowe, by coming in at his ridiculous weight, and Rock Newman have treated people with contempt, and tonight they paid the penalty."

Holyfield proved to be every bit the determined competitor he said he would be and boxed

beautifully throughout to win 114-114, 115-113, though on my card he won by three rounds. Bowe boxed well below his best, no doubt the weight of 246lb reduced in seven weeks from 290lb, worked against him, but with sporadic rallies and a big burst in the last round from Bowe, the whole contest became an exciting one and right to the end there was always a danger of Bowe landing a knockout punch.

Holyfield's strategy of boxing around Bowe and attacking from different angles did not allow the champion, who likes to travel in straight lines, to set himself for his lethal combinations. The extra weight often left him slow and clumsy.

Bowe opened with a heavy right-hand clout behind Holyfield's left ear that had the challenger reeling and it seemed for a moment that he might be caught by another big one, but Holyfield somehow recovered and stayed clear of the advancing champi-

on by using the full width of the ring.

From the second, Holyfield began to take the bout to Bowe, and it was surprising how easily he outboxed the bigger man. By the fourth, Holyfield not only got under Bowe's guard but also seemed to get under his skin, for Bowe regarded the bell and carried on fighting after it had sounded and the two had to be separated by their cornermen.

Holyfield, who had most of the crowd of 15,000 behind him chanting "Holy! Holy!", showed the first signs of moving ahead when he caught Bowe with a beautiful right and followed up with a four-punch combination in the fifth round. Bowe was in serious trouble and leaned, helpless, on Holyfield. If Holyfield could have extricated himself and landed another blow, Bowe would have fallen.

By now, Bowe was puffing and reluctant to engage in similar encounters. Had it not been for the 20-minute interruption by the parachutist that allowed Bowe to have a wash and brush-up, repair a split nose and regain his breath and composure, Holyfield might have finished him inside the distance. In the eighth perhaps, for he darted in and

out, beating Bowe to the punch and clipping him with stinging lefts and rights that forced the bigger man to stumble onto the ropes. Bowe made a desperate rally in the twelfth, but did not manage to land cleanly enough to wipe out the deficit in points.

However, later, Bowe, wearing sticking plasters on cuts over his left eye, accepted defeat philosophically: "They lost, Joe Louis and Muhammad Ali and so forth, but their greatness was established when they came back from defeats and won the title and I will too. As Ali would say, 'I shall return'."

Holyfield can undoubtedly pose serious problems for Lewis, who was so easily caught by Frank Bruno's jab when they met in Cardiff at the beginning of last month. Holyfield has a quicker jab than Bruno and hits from all angles, which will make it difficult for Lewis to keep him under control. Holyfield takes a punch well, so it is unlikely that Lewis's big right hand will hold any fears for him. If Holyfield was able to wobble Bowe with his punches, he should not find it too difficult to hurt Lewis.

Flying visit, page 13

Edwards snatches draw for Cannock

By Sydney Friskin

OLD Loughlionians had victory snatched from their grasp at home by Cannock yesterday when Paul Edwards converted a penalty stroke in the dying seconds for a 2-2 draw in the Pizza Express national hockey league.

Edwards had played a prominent part in this late drama. He was temporarily suspended for not retreating when a free hit was taken and while on the bench he saw Thompson score the second goal for Old Loughlionians from a short corner and Pidcock's reply for Cannock on the follow-up from a short corner two minutes later.

He was eventually recalled to save the day for Cannock who, like Old Loughlionians, preserved their unbeaten record.

Old Loughlionians took the lead in the second minute when Barker converted the first short corner of the match. They dominated play but threw their advantage away.

Richard Gibson scored three goals in the first 23 minutes for East Grinstead, who defeated Canterbury 5-3 in a fast and fluent match on Saturday. Gibson fashioned the first goal then seized the two other chances set up for him.

Canterbury retaliated in the 32nd and 43rd minutes with goals by Powell and Smith. East Grinstead's defence having left the gate open. But for a save on the line by Zander the score might well have been 3-3.

East Grinstead's fourth goal by Bhatti in the fiftieth minute was answered by Surridge from a cleverly-worked short corner eight minutes later. Lee's goal in the 63rd minute ended the issue.

After Hounslow had been held goalless by Indira Gynkhanah on Saturday to drop their first point, Southgate also blotted their copy book by drawing 1-1 yesterday with Trojans.

The position at the top of the first division table was unaltered, with Hounslow and Southgate retaining the leadership, each with 13 points.

Caution leaves little room for goals

SLOUGH and Ipswich both paid the price for caution on Saturday (Alex Ramsay writes). Determined not to concede vital points, they fought out a dull 0-0 draw, giving Leicester the chance to go two points clear at the top of the women's national league with a 1-0 victory at Clifton.

For the present and former champions, it was never going to be an easy task. Both sides packed their defences, leaving no space to create an opening. Ipswich raced out of the blocks at a frantic pace, doing themselves few favours in the process. After a flurry of activity in the first 15 minutes, Slough realised they had weathered the storm and got on with the business of closing Ipswich down.

Slough's total of a dozen penalty corners — seven in the second half — could not produce a goal. After the break, Slough dominated as Brown forced a couple of excellent saves from her former teammate, Thompson, now happily ensconced in the Ipswich goal, but there were few clear-cut chances for either side.

Meanwhile, Leicester did manage to find the target through Holwell. Her 56th-minute penalty corner was enough to subdue Clifton who had made a bright start to the match. At the bottom of the table, Ealing could do nothing to stop the rejuvenated Hightown, who rallied in three goals from Cullen, Stokes and Crook. Having rediscovered their scoring touch, they now look forward to taking on Ipswich next week.

In the first division Wimbledon maintained their lead despite drawing 3-3 with Bluebirds.

Ivanisevic puts power to use

By Our Sports Staff

GORAN Ivanisevic, the ninth seed, continued his late-season spell of form by unleashing 27 aces to overpower Andrei Medvedev, 6-4, 6-2, 7-6 and win the Paris Open yesterday. It was the ninth tournament win of the Croatian's career and the third this year. It was also his third consecutive final, for he won in Vienna two weeks ago and lost in Stockholm last week.

Ivanisevic, 22, has made a strong comeback on the tour after a stress fracture in his right foot at the start of 1993. He won his first singles title of the year at the inaugural Bucharest Open on clay in September.

"This year, I have been struggling a lot," Ivanisevic said. "But I have been playing well the last two months, and this is like a gift for the hard work. After the US Open, I went to practise more."

Ivanisevic gave a hint of things to come against Medvedev, the eighth seed, when he blasted four aces in his first service game, two at more than 125mph. He ended with 97 aces for the tournament with a fastest speed of 128mph.

"On clay I would have a lot of chances," Medvedev, who has won five titles on clay,

said. "But indoors it is very hard."

The crowd occasionally booed Ivanisevic's show of power, which made short work of Medvedev, but he said: "I don't care. They want five sets, but I don't want to play five sets." He had been impressive in beating the world No 1, Pete Sampras, plus Stefan Edberg, Michael Chang and Medvedev in the last four matches. "To beat four top-ten guys in one tournament is not easy, so you have to play good," he said.

Ivanisevic's only worry in the first set came when Medvedev had a break point in the sixth game, but he swatted that aside with a service winner and won the game with an ace. He took the lead with a service break in the next game, passing Medvedev at the net, and from then on it was a race to the finish. Ivanisevic ended the first set in 32 minutes and had two breaks and five more aces in the 26-minute second set.

"I was playing great," the Croatian said. "Every time I wanted to hit an ace, I hit an ace."

RESULTS: Singles: Semi-finals: G Ivanisevic (Croat) vs S Edberg (Swe), 4-6, 7-6, 7-6; A Medvedev (Rus) vs A Bouchet (F), 2-6, 7-6, 7-6. First: Ivanisevic vs Medvedev, 6-4, 6-2, 7-6.

Bates takes inspiration from emergence of British talent

By Stuart Jones, Tennis Correspondent

THE national championships were completed as they should have been. Jeremy Bates and Clare Wood, the top seeds, collected their titles at Telford without dropping a set, but the manner in which they won them over the weekend revealed the stark contrast between the men's and women's games.

Bates insists that, at 31, he is playing the best tennis of his career. On the evidence of last week, nobody could dispute his claim. He had to be at his peak to resist Tim Henman in the quarter-finals and Chris Bailey in the final yesterday. Wood's only realistic opponent was her own nerves. Despite spraying services all around the International Centre — she had 16 double faults in the semi-final and final — she was never genuinely under threat. She conceded only 21 games in her five matches and eased past Karen Cross, of Devon, 7-5, 6-0 in the decider.

As in the world, so in Britain. As the quality of the men's event was deep — it was no great surprise that the second and third seeds were eliminated in the opening round — so the women's was comparatively shallow, with the top four seeds, including

even the injured Jo Durie, reaching the semi-finals. Whereas Wood declares that "it is not much fun being on my own" on her global travels, Bates admits he is inspired by those beneath him. Every time he has been challenged at home, he has climbed into the top 100 in the world.

In the past, he has responded to one individual. They have, in turn, been Andrew Castle, Stephen Shaw and Chris Wilkinson. For the first time, he can sense not only a group pursuing him but also several youngsters, such as Henman and Jamie Delgado, developing into "very good"

players. "We shouldn't jump up and down about them," he warned. "But the standard is definitely going up, and there is a quiet confidence about the way things are going. They should be left alone to continue their work. They have to learn the trade."

Only recently has Bates, who may consider retiring next year, learned to be patient and selective. Mistakes have consequently been reduced, as he demonstrated in the final when making only one unforced error in beating Bailey 6-3, 6-3 in 72 minutes. He also took the doubles title, with Mark Petchey, after winning a

marathon final set 13-11 against Miles MacLagan and Andrew Foster.

Midway through the first set against Bailey, he brought his 6ft 5in opponent to his knees when, in concluding a rapid exchange at the net with a crisp volley, he hit Bailey, leaving him crumpled on the floor. That also created the first break point.

"I'll wear a box next time," Bailey joked. "He wasn't missing anything and it was tough enough playing him without wanting to be sick on court." He was among the observers who had never seen Bates perform at such a consistently high level.

Bailey should know. The pair have been travelling together and share a coach, Nick Carr. In Kuala Lumpur, Bailey watched Bates make Wally Masur, a semi-finalist in the United States Open, "look silly". He said: "When it all comes together, Jeremy has the class to be in the top 50." At present, he is 97th.

RESULTS: Men: Singles: Semi-finals: C Bailey (North) vs M MacLagan (W Scot), 6-1, 6-4; J Bates (Surrey) vs C Foster (Kent), 6-2, 6-3. First: Bates vs Bailey, 6-3, 6-3. Doubles: First: Bates and M Petchey (Essex) vs MacLagan and A Foster (Surrey), 7-5, 6-7, 12-11. Women: Singles: First: C Wood (Sussex) vs K Cross (Devon), 7-5, 6-0. Doubles: First: S-A Sedall (Dorset) and A Wainwright (Essex) vs J Durie (Ayr) and Wood, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.



Bailey full of admiration



Bates more selective

Flowers proves his worth but Ferdinand takes the credit



Ferdinand: goal claim

Queens Park Rangers 1
Blackburn Rovers 0

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

HOW football people pick up frequencies on Saturday afternoon that are inaudible to others never ceases to surprise. It is a compelling reason why participants make colourful or plain witnesses ("the ball came over and I stuck it in") but not always reliable ones.

Kenny Dalglish, for instance, found little fault with Blackburn's display at Loftus Road. Nor did anybody else, actually, although Rovers hardly touched the heights. Gerry Francis, the Queens Park Rangers manager, regarded the game as "the toughest we have

played this season" which, coming after their gallant defeat at Old Trafford the previous week, seemed a bit odd.

A more dispassionate view might be that Rangers, second-best for much of the game, owed victory to a fortitude which will hold them in good stead; that Blackburn lacked the will, as much as anything, to show their superior ability in terms of goals.

Having just paid £2 million for Tim Flowers, the last thing Dalglish contemplated was a further injury to his most important player. Alan Shearer often appears to be a forward line by himself. Seven minutes before half-time he pulled up, chasing Sterwood's pass, and went off with what Dalglish called a "jagged back".

That muscular spasm also jarred Blackburn's performance. Although Le Saux bolstered the midfield, Shearer's absence at any time can only diminish their capacity for goals. Newell humbled, as he does so often, Gallacher, for all his nimbleness, lacks presence and Ripley was well handled by Wilson, who, by containing him so well, did more than anyone to ensure Rangers did not lose.

Ferdinand did most to confirm victory — and Blackburn's first away defeat — although whether it was his head, or Hendry's, which lifted Holloway's cross over Flowers is a moot point. Ferdinand claimed the goal, as strikers will. Neither Flowers, caught in Ken Barrington's "two man's land", nor Newell, on the goal-line, could keep

the ball out. The goal spoiled his debut, but Flowers emerged with honour intact. Twice in the first half he kept Rovers afloat, parrying a Ferdinand shot when the striker was clear and turning aside an effort from Allen, who had earlier headed the best chance of the match wide from an unmarked position.

So much has been made of the amount Dalglish paid Southampton for Flowers that he is entitled to feel aggrieved. To outsiders the sight of players preferring to join an out-of-the-way Lancashire club, instead of Liverpool and Manchester United, is a matter for quiet amusement, if not rejoicing. Carlel was the right word — just consider the appalling excuses Martin Edwards trotted out this week to

account for United's dismissal from Europe — and in any case, Dalglish has, in Flowers, a good run.

Batty's value as a midfield scuffer should also become apparent to a team which, commendably, fields four forwards (Gallacher began in a deep position, but his intentions were well defined). Whether Batty is worth £750,000 more than Flowers is debatable. Alan Mullery, a high-class right-half in his day, was a radio summariser on Saturday. Just how much would he be worth nowadays?

The expert Wilkins provides for Rangers is beyond Batty's range, for it comes with the passing of years. The knee injury which has troubled him recurred again and he missed the last half-hour. Holloway proved a busy substitute,

but Rangers have enough busy players. As Francis noted, a two-week break has come at just the right time.

For Blackburn and Shearer a rest is also handy. The England striker ought to be available for the San Marino match on Wednesday week and Dalglish must cross his fingers that he remains fit. The Blackburn manager may be misled that others see his side as Shearer and ten others. Fair enough. No one man makes a team. Shearer, on the other hand, makes Blackburn a team good enough to win trophies.

Reporters: G. Le Saux, S. H., M. Newell, R. Gurn.

Villa's late surge makes Wright rue penalty miss

Arsenal 1
Aston Villa 2

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THE pulsating finale to this game, during which Aston Villa came from behind to "mug" Arsenal in the word of Ron Atkinson, the Villa manager, showed why Villa is ready to alter World Cup qualifying matches after 1994 to three points for a win.

In that, alone, the world has something to learn from England. Undoubtedly the difference between winning and drawing matches has galvanised the competitive edge in domestic football over the last dozen years, and both Arsenal and Villa were obliged on Saturday to go all out for victory given the way Manchester United have galloped away in the championship.

In the first half, elongated by eight minutes of injury time, was a wretched contrast to the thought, weight and balance of passing in the Villa derby yesterday. And with the England manager, Graham Taylor, about to name his squad today in the last attempt to qualify for the United States next year, it is unerving to realise that at least five of his squad play Arsenal's game.

Indeed, two thirds of the players in this helter-skelter runaround represented no fewer than six nations with World Cup ambitions, though only Linpar, from Sweden, has already qualified.

Linpar? An Arsenal reserve, unquestionably one of the most gifted players in Arsenal's employ, yet Saturday was only the third time in 21 league and cup matches that George Graham had designed to select both Linpar and Merson, his two artistic performers.

During the first half, which prolonged the sterility of Arsenal's goalless games, Linpar was the outstanding prompt. The low centre of gravity that he possesses, the sudden impromptu runs of directness and incision, lifted a first half that was less fascinating than watching the police outside lift and take away an illegally parked van.

With Taylor watching, Seaman, the England goalkeeper, was injured in the eleventh minute when he rushed to try to clear a ball at the edge of the area and his ankle was numbed by the boot of Dalian Atkinson.

Although the goalkeeper continued after six minutes of treatment, and although he refused to blame either of Villa's goals on his handling, it will clearly be some time before England know if their No 1 goalkeeper is fit for San Marino. But the merest of Adams in that moment was compounded by his culpability in both Villa goals, hardly a way to celebrate ten years in an Arsenal shirt, and not at all bolstering for England.

More encouraging by far was an electrifying performance from Ian Wright. Responding to the vivacious through-balls from Linpar,

and occasionally to some inventive work from Merson (who in central midfield looks a possible replacement as creator for Gascoigne) Wright was so fast, so full of running off the ball, that he overshadowed any suggestion that Atkinson might be a replacement in his England shirt.

That Wright did not score more than once was partly his own fault, partly the work of Bosnich. The Villa goalkeeper saved a penalty from Wright just before half-time after Wright had been tripped by Teale. It was the third successive penalty the Australian has parried away, a wonderful piece of mind-reading and a flying, athletic dive to push the ball on to the base of his left post. But in that action Bosnich injured a hip, and eventually had to be substituted by Spink.

But Wright, once denied by Spink, and once by sheer misfortune when a superb volley dipped tantalisingly wide, scored in the 58th minute. It was the first league goal scored or conceded by Arsenal in seven league games, and a goal worthy of breaking that famine. Keown and Dixon provided the opening, and Wright, turning deceptively just inside the penalty area, fiddled the ball with his left foot into the narrowest of gaps between Spink and his right-hand post.

Wright thought he had won the match. Most present thought so, too. But Villa substituted Houghton, one of their three Irishmen, and brought on Whittingham. The former soldier had the brain to do what Saunders and Atkinson had failed in over an hour before him. He kept his head, delayed his run, and beat Arsenal's offside trap.

Atkinson provided the pass and Whittingham used Adams, the one lurking Arsenal defender, to keep himself onside and shoot past Seaman. Arsenal, desperate for three points, then bombarded Villa until, two minutes into time added for second-half stoppages, the final injustice struck.

Saunders chased a ball in the right-hand corner that Adams and Winterburn gave up for dead, and when Saunders crossed it, Townsend, from 15 yards, completed the mugging with his right foot.

Reporters: G. Le Saux, S. H., M. Newell, R. Gurn.



Le Tissier gives Tottenham the run around during Southampton's 1-0 victory at The Dell. His header set up the goal for Maddison

Le Tissier an imperfect focus of attention

WE came to watch Matthew Le Tissier, whose flurry of recent goals has lifted the cloud over lowly Southampton. Some of us departed with the thought that, while Le Tissier may not be the answer for England's future, Osvaldo Ardiles possibly could be.

Perhaps that seems a contradictory conclusion from a match illuminated by Le Tissier and dominated by Southampton in a 1-0 victory which was given little passion by a characterless, mid-table Tottenham, for whom Anderson without Sheringham is butch without Sundance.

And yet? The football played by Tottenham, while at times it would not have overtaken an old lady wheeling a supermarket trolley, was an echo of the past of what old-timers would call proper football, namely built on the principles of Arthur Rowe, Vic Buckingham and Bill Nicholson, and epitomised by Danny Blanchflower. Passing the ball to each other.

Useless succession of silly little triangles getting nowhere, grumbled a photographer, who was probably conditioned by the Charles

Hughes-Graham Taylor get-it-into-their-box-and-quickly school of thought. However, if Kenna, the Southampton right back, had not been adroitly positioned under his own crossbar eight minutes after half-time to head away a cross by Campbell, his opposite number, following a five-man succession of silly triangles, the result might have been different. Tottenham had already struck the post early in the first half.

On the pessimistic assumption that England are about to fail to qualify for the World Cup finals for the first time since 1978, it is worth re-emphasising the suggestion — acknowledged as a possibility by Sir Bert Millichip — a few months ago with scepticism about public reaction — that Ardiles should be given the chance as manager on a short-term, part-time contract.

Ardiles has put the Tottenham clock back a dozen years, to his own prime as the mainspring of the team, behind Hoddle, and to the 30 years of elegance prior to that. Tottenham lack the star players of old at present, though that does not invalidate the style. Hazard, having re-

turned from Swindon, gave a fair impersonation of Muller. Unfortunately for him, the veteran Reid, despite those aging legs, gave an even better impersonation of Alan Ball to revive recollections of Southampton's finest days.

The days, indeed, of Mick Channon. What makes Le Tissier dangerous is that, like Channon — or Malcolm MacDonald — he runs fast and direct at defenders, a tactic which too many forwards fail to realise obliges the defender momentarily to be stationary, giving the forward twice the chance of going past him.

Furthermore, being sturdy, like Channon, with strong hips, Le Tissier is difficult to dispossess. Yet his limitation, as with Channon and MacDonald, is that he does not readily link with the team. When he is not immediately involved in a move, he might as well be

having a friendly half-pint in the bar with Southampton's amiable supporters. It is this factor that has probably dissuaded the leading clubs from making a powerful bid for a player with such obvious, natural talent.

He ran Tottenham dizzy at times in the first half, hard as Mabbitt toiled to keep Tottenham steady. Tottenham's persistence in attempting to build from the back, seldom hitting a long, optimistic ball, was a fascination in itself in this era of boring expediency.

They might have taken the lead in the eighteenth minute when Anderson, working his way clear on the left, realised that Andrews, the replacement for the departed Flowers, was off his line and floated a cross-shot which dipped behind the goalkeeper to hit the far post. Hazard, following up, had two shots blocked.

Almost immediately Le Tissier, at the other end, veered to the right round Edinburgh, but mis-hit his shot from a good position. And when, shortly before half-time, Southampton had five against three in a breakaway, Dowie was slow to slip the

ball left to Le Tissier in open space.

Le Tissier is better at the shot struck with a flourish when moving at pace than at taking the simple chances at short range. When Allen made an opening on the stroke of half-time, Le Tissier prodded wide from a few yards out.

Tottenham continued with their neat if ineffective play, and on the hour Southampton scored. A long cross from Adams on the left flew to Le Tissier beyond the far post and his header squared into the goalmouth was nodded firmly by Maddison past Thorstvedt.

Now Southampton dominated. Dowie missed badly from Le Tissier's cross. Maddison went close again, but before the end Tottenham could have saved face when Sedgley struck the post from Anderson's cross and Caskey, with his first touch after replacing Dozzell, put the rebound wide.

Reporters: G. Le Saux, S. H., M. Newell, R. Gurn.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE				
	Played	Points	Goal diff.	Recent form
1 Manchester Utd	14	37	+19	WWWWW
2 Norwich	14	26	+10	WWDDW
3 Aston Villa	14	26	+10	LDWWW
4 Leeds	14	25	+17	DDDDW
5 Liverpool	14	23	+10	DWDWW
6 Arsenal	14	23	+5	DDDDL
7 QPR	14	23	+4	WWLWL
8 Blackburn	14	23	+4	DDDWL
9 Wimbledon	14	20	+3	LDLWL
10 Newcastle	13	19	+7	DWWLW
11 Tottenham	14	18	+4	WLDDL
12 Everton	14	19	+1	LDLWL
13 Coventry	14	19	-1	LDLWL
14 Ipswich	14	16	-7	LDLWL
15 West Ham	14	16	-7	WDDWL
16 Manchester City	14	14	-2	DDDDL
17 Sheffield Wed	14	13	-3	LDLWL
18 Chelsea	14	13	-5	LDLWL
19 Sheffield Utd	14	12	-6	LDLWL
20 Southampton	14	11	-8	DWLWL
21 Oldham	13	11	-10	DLDWL
22 Swindon	14	5	-22	LDLWL

Weekly change: Up Stayed the same Down

West Ham revert to same old story

Liverpool 2
West Ham 0

By PETER BALL

SOME things never change, at least superficially. The late Bill Shankly would have felt at home at Anfield on Saturday as West Ham fulfilled their traditional role as entertaining losers.

"It's always a good game, and we win," Shankly said when describing West Ham as Liverpool's favourite visitors. It is now 30 years since West Ham last won at Anfield.

But behind the familiarity, there were signs that things are changing at West Ham under Billy Bonds. They now have a commanding goalkeeper, who comes out and catches crosses in heavy traffic, and defenders who tackle as if they mean it, led by David Burrows, whose reception from the Kop suggested that Julian Dicks will find replacing him

in the supporters' affections a difficult task.

For the first hour it looked as if West Ham had arrived without reading the script. In the past visitors have been heard wishing that they had brought their own ball with them after hardly getting a kick all afternoon. Now it looked as if the game was being played with West Ham's ball and they were not allowing the home side a kick.

"We said beforehand that against West Ham we'd have to work hard to get the ball back, and because our crowd does not like to see us having a lot of the ball at Anfield they might get frustrated," Graeme Souness said afterwards. They did, the buzz of discontent growing as the first half progressed.

Much of it was directed at the hapless Paul Stewart, who does not look like a Liverpool midfielder player. When an intended pass to Harkness went into touch ten yards

behind the full back, one supporter was driven to despair. "Stewart, I'd sooner have Bjornneby than you," he shouted wistfully.

Liverpool's cause was not helped by the loss of the unlucky Jones with a cartilage injury, which is likely to keep him out for six weeks. He will miss England's World Cup qualifying match against San Marino on November 17.

West Ham were positive, full of fluent passing and purposeful movement. But Grobbelaar was in outstanding form, producing one breathtaking save to deny Holmes as West Ham swept through his defence.

The old West Ham is still there, however, and they failed to turn their superiority into goals, notably when Morley slipped as he went to meet Chapman's cross with the goal gaping in front of him just before the hour.

Ten minutes later Clough, who had been growing in influence as the pace declined,

rifled the ball past Miodosko, and the old storyline had survived yet another episode. To rub in the point, Matteo claimed his first goal after Miodosko had brilliantly parried his first effort. Burrows succeeded only in turning the ball into the roof of the net.

"There's only one David Burrows," the Kop repeated, this time teasingly, but Burrows may have the last laugh. Liverpool are 1-1 for the FA Carling Premiership title and this win takes them up to fifth, but on this form Burrows is captain of the only Liverpool team likely to win anything — the team in the quarter-finals of Go For Goal, Granada's answer to A Question of Sport.

Reporters: G. Le Saux, S. H., M. Newell, R. Gurn.

Rocastle sheds outcast's mantle

Leeds United 4
Chelsea 1

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

WHEN David Batty, a Leeds lad to the core, transferred his allegiance to Blackburn Rovers two weeks ago, Elland Road mourned. Leslie Silver, the Leeds United chairman and prime mover in the deal, was vilified; Howard Wilkinson, the manager, was crestfallen; Joe Public was incensed. No matter that the fee for Batty, some £2.75 million, would carve a huge hole in the club debt.

David Rocastle, though, could have been forgiven a small smirk amid the flood of outrage. Suddenly, 18 months after his arrival from Arsenal at a cost of £2 million and with only 13 full league appearances behind him, he could sense a future in the white-and-blue.

At Elland Road on Saturday, Rocastle edged a step

nearer to turning his hopes into reality. He completed the full 90 minutes for the first time this season and in the process revived memories of the darling skills that earned him a championship medal and 14 England caps while at Highbury. He also scored a fine goal, with a jink inside Johnsen and an elegant shot of placement and power.

Wilkinson bought Rocastle for the time when Strachan's legs finally gave out. But the wee man kept on running and forced his heir into reserve-team obscurity. Now, with Batty gone and Strachan also sidelined with knee ligament damage, Rocastle has every chance to prove his worth in a side mounting a strong revival.

Chelsea, hustling and bustling yet naive in the extreme, provided ideal opposition for him to display his full repertoire. Though operating rather wider and further forward than he might prefer, he skipped past tackles, supplied

one-touch passes and provided constant support for McAllister and Speed. At last, he looked at ease; gone was the fear of making mistakes and the reprisal of non-selection next time out.

No such relaxed feel about Chelsea, their fifth consecutive league defeat only delayed by the first-half acrobatics of Hitchcock. "He lived up to his name," Wilkinson said. "He kept us all in suspense until



Rocastle: feeling wanted

after half-time." Then, crass defending and an irresistible surge from Leeds produced four goals — two from Rod Wallace, one from Deane and the Rocastle gem. It should have been more.

Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea player-manager, crafted a late consolation for Shappley but cut an increasingly forlorn figure, unable to fathom or halt the incompetence around him. How long before he relinquishes his playing role?

Tony Banks, Labour MP, Chelsea follower and satellite TV pundit, was in no doubt. "He should do it now," he said. "You can see what's going wrong much better from off the pitch." Rocastle would disagree: warming the bench is a lonely pastime.

Reporters: G. Le Saux, S. H., M. Newell, R. Gurn.

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Raging Bull demolishes Derby's run of home wins

Derby County.....0
Wolverhampton W.....4

By DAVID POWELL

DERBY County, who ended Charlton Athletic's unbeaten Endleigh Insurance League home record in midweek, lost their own yesterday when Steve Bull produced finishing of the standard that earned him 13 appearances for England. Bull's hat-trick, together with an assist for Wolverhampton Wanderers' fourth goal, scored by Kevin Keen, made a mockery of Derby's recent form.

Derby went into the match following the scent of the first division leadership but, significantly, without Darren Wassall, whose partnership with Craig Short in central defence had been pivotal in three successive league victories.

All three of Bull's goals resulted in slack marking in the central area being marshalled by Short and Wassall's stand-in, Jason Kavanagh. While Wassall was beginning a two-match suspension, Bull was making up for lost appearances. A hamstring injury kept him out for most of October and, after one goal in two matches since his return, he was the Raging Bull of old.

"He was outstanding," Roy McFarland, the Derby manager, said. "Even if we had had Wassall playing, he would have been a handful. He should be playing in the premier league."

Bull scored the only goal of the first half, Short giving him the yard he needed to seize on Birch's cross and lob over Taylor, the Derby goalkeeper. That was in the eighteenth minute and, though Wolves were moving the ball well, Taylor had no further anxious moments until after half-time.

On the hour, Bull struck his second, a venomous drive after Kelly had headed down. To get there, though, Bull showed more determination than Short, who seemed lost without his regular partner. The chanting began: "Bully for England."

It is two years since Bull last wore an England shirt and three since he was in the squad that reached the World Cup semi-finals. At 28, there is time to revive his international career and perhaps help England qualify for the 1998 finals. His wish for 1994 is that Wolves, the club for which he has been the leading scorer for

seven successive seasons, returns to the leading division ten years after leaving it.

This was Wolves' sixth league match without defeat. Bull scoring his third goal with a header after 67 minutes and setting up a fourth for Keen, whose low angled drive a minute from time completed the starting of a home record that had yielded 18 points from six matches.

Graham Turner, in his eighth year as the Wolves manager, may feel more secure in his position now. Supporters have been calling for his removal but, such is his team's progress up the table, they may be pleased to find him still there at the end of the season.

McFarland responded to heavy defeat with equanimity, saying Derby had not played too badly. However, they created few chances and Stowell, the Wolves goalkeeper, will recall an early dive to keep out Kitson and his 52nd-minute save from Pembroke's effort as the only occasions when his goal looked remotely like being breached.

Little went right for Derby. Simpson, who had scored against Charlton with a precisely struck long-range free kick, tried again yesterday but hit the Wolves wall. Derby's only good fortune was that Bull did not score five. Once, when taking possession unmarked in the penalty area, he was too slow and Kavanagh tackled, on another occasion, he hooked his leg around Short to win the ball only to see his shot flash across the goal.

DERBY COUNTY (4-4-2): M Taylor — G Charlton, C Short, J Kavanagh, M Pembroke, J Harte, M Keen (sub: P Williams, 40 min), M Pembroke, P Simpson — P Kitson, J Johnson.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (3-5-2): M Stowell — P Short, O Mountford, M Keen — A Thompson, P Cook, P Cook (sub: M Rankin, 75), K Keen, P Edwards — D Kelly, S But.

Referee: J Rushion.



Bull: class finishing

Budgie still calling the tune

By ANDREW LONGMORE

AFTER 745 games for 13 clubs, the Budgie is still chirping. He kept another clean sheet on Saturday, helping lowly Scarborough to their second home win running, 2-0 against Doncaster Rovers. Early next month, he will be 42. "I'm not worried about his knees or his back," Steve Wicks, the new Scarborough manager, said. "The only danger is that his mouth will wear out."

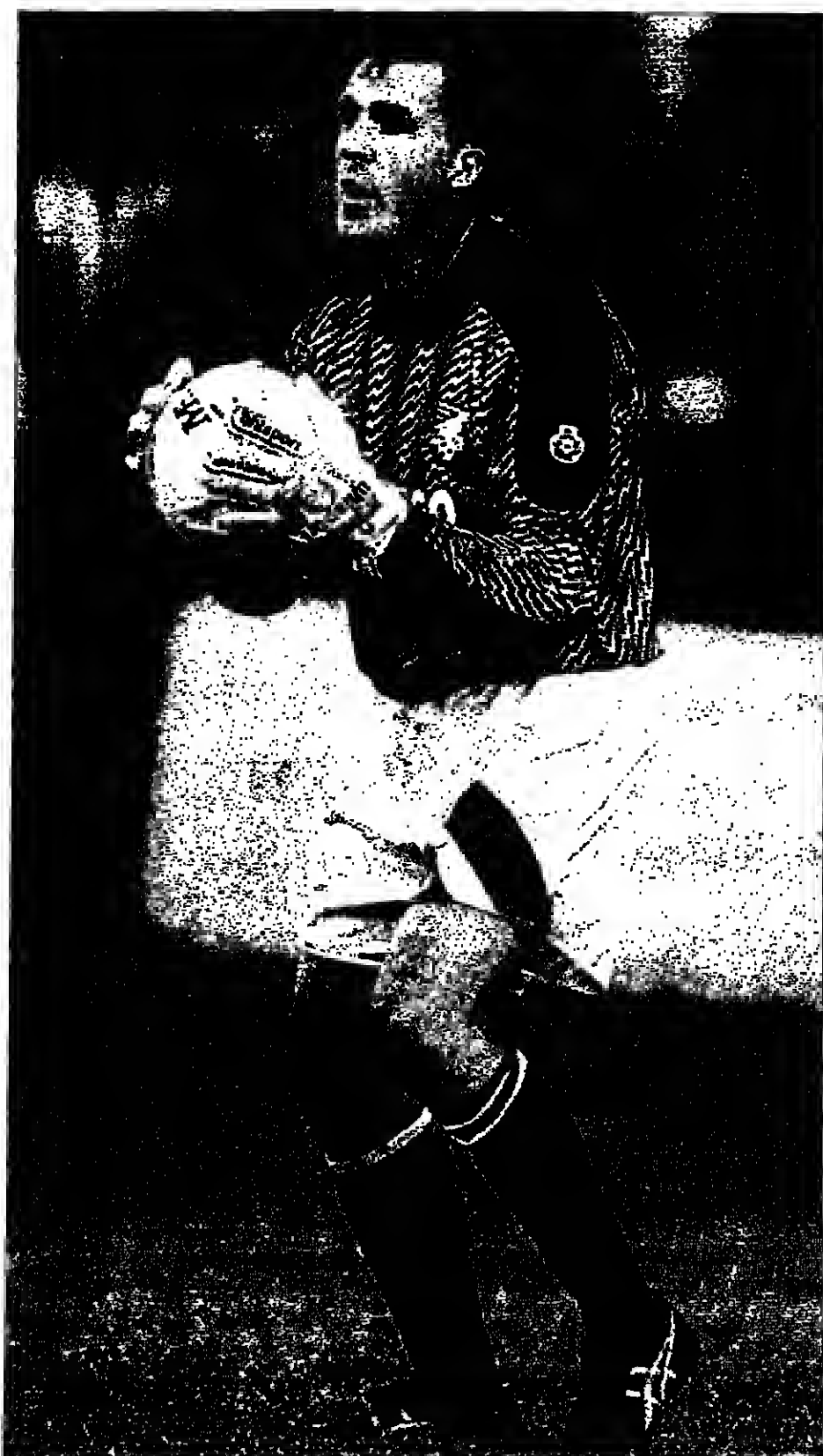
Wicks should know. His ears are still ringing from his time with John Burridge at Queens Park Rangers. "I tell you, he nagged me to death. On and on. But I've never played with a better goalkeeper in my life." No surprise, then, that Wicks's first call on arriving at Seamer Road was to his old tormentor, the Marco Polo of the football league.

Workington, Blackpool, Aston Villa, Crystal Palace, QPR, Wolves, Sheffield United, Southampton, Newcastle and Hibernian (plus Southend and Derby on loan) have all sampled Burridge's brand of brilliance and brainstrom over the past 25 years. None managed to cure his itchy feet or satisfy a restless mind. He won plenty of medals, but none for long service. At times, Burridge's own evaluation of his talents did not match those of his employers, but he stayed at the top level for two decades and stuck a patent on goalkeeping dexterity long before Bruce Grobbelaar made his mark.

Burridge was a pioneer in using the goalkeeper as a sweeper, in kicking from the ground not the hand and performing handstands, not for celebration like Grobbelaar, but for elasticity. "Everyone said: 'Don't do that, it's clown's stuff'. But I did it to get upper-body strength. When I began sweeping behind the back four, it was called lunic. Now everyone's involved." He even claims to have used specialist goalkeeping gloves first.

Yet his real speciality was the escape, the mad dash from his line, the despairing lunge, the hair-raising miss and the innocent look as if it was all meant to be. Like all eccentrics, Burridge has always thought of himself as normal and the rest of the world mad.

At Workington, where he made his league debut at the age of 17, he once turned and smashed the ball into the back of his own net at the final whistle only to find it was not the final whistle at all. His first job in league football was to pick the ball out of the net. "A long cross. I missed it completely and this big lad from Newport County smacked it in. We won 3-2." He was at it again on



Burridge keeps a grip on things for Scarborough. Photograph: Paul McFegan

Saturday, listening to his hypnotist tapes for 20 minutes before kick-off to aid relaxation — "Imagine the cross, one, two, three, up you go, catch it cleanly..." — scurrying from his box and bawling at his defence from impossible distances.

For the first 20 minutes he kept Scarborough in the game as Doncaster threatened to run riot. He was beaten once but, as if understanding that higher forces were at work, the ball cannoned off the inside of the post and bounced crazily across the goal. The rest was

harum-scarum, but Scarborough survived and goals from Henderson and Young either side of half-time rewarded Burridge for his heroics and the gash on his right leg.

In all except timing, the game has been good to Budgie. He owns a dress shop in Newcastle, two sports shops and a petrol station, drives a Jaguar (registration plate: A SAVE) and coaches at Newcastle during the week. His son is an under-16 England international at ice hockey. But Burridge had the misfortune to be born at the

wrong time, when the likes of Shilton, Clemence and Corrigan were at work. "I'd love to be 25 now. There aren't many good goalkeepers around and most of those are foreigners. You know, I'm better now than I've ever been, but because I've got a 41-year-old birth certificate, no one will believe me." It has always been the way.

SCARBOROUGH (4-4-2): J Burridge — O Knowles, D Ovens, J Hodgson, S Swales — S Thompson, M Calvert, S Charles, S Murray — D Henderson, S Young. DONCASTER Rovers (4-4-2): A Bradley — J Moseham, R Wilson, T Cunningham, C Freeman, D Roche, M Yones (sub: C Whelan, 60 min), K Hulme, D Wilkinson, G Jones, L Turnbull. Referee: G Singh.

Dearth of quality exposed at Luton

Luton Town.....1
Charlton Athletic.....0

By KEITH PIKE

TWO teams with meagre resources but contrasting ambitions produced a game of predictably limited appeal at Kenilworth Road yesterday, and Luton's narrow but deserved victory will only have strengthened the view that the Endleigh Insurance League first division is not the place for connoisseurs this season.

Having started the match separated from Charlton by almost the length of the table, Luton are now seventeenth and five places closer to the team whose presence among the front-runners all season has raised eyebrows everywhere at The Valley. That Luton were marginally the better side confirmed that there is little to choose between those at the top and those at the bottom.

It was a theme both managements took up afterwards: "It is a very open division and there is no reason why we cannot win it despite this defeat," Alan Curbishley, the Charlton co-manager, said.

David Fleet, of Luton, even ventured to suggest that a couple more wins before Christmas will have his team being talked about as possible promotion contenders. That might be stretching optimism too far, but he had every right to feel pleased.

The loss of Oakes to a ruptured calf muscle five minutes before half-time was a blow Luton did well to recover from. It was his thrusts down the left flank that had done most to unsettle Charlton, but their reshuffled midfield quartet, in which Harper's experience blended well with the youthful exuberance of those around him, continued to play the more inventive football.

It was one of those youngsters, Telfer, who struck the decisive goal after 22 minutes. Johnson's cross found Telfer unmarked and his firm header, producing his third goal of the season, established him as Luton's leading scorer.

Salmon kept Charlton in the hunt with flying saves to turn aside 20-yard shots from Telfer and Dickow, but his team's lack of penetration grew ever more acute. Nelson's well struck half-volley from distance that smacked against Sommer's crossbar was an early moment of promise never to be repeated.

LUTON TOWN (4-4-2): J Sommer — D Linton, T Foster, J Dwyer, M Johnson — D Telfer, J Harper, G Hughes, G Hughes (sub: M Williams, 40 min), K Dixon, G Aldred (sub: P Dickow, 71).

CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2): M Salmon — S Bailey, A McLeod, P Chapman, S Minto — S Newton (sub: D Bailey, 55), D Fletcher, C Walsh, J Robinson (sub: N Grant, 70) — C Leach, G Nelson.

Smith to take over as skipper of Intrum

By BARRY PICKTHALL

LAWRIE Smith, the British yachtsman, flew out to Uruguay last night to take over as skipper of the European Whitbread Round the World Race entry, Intrum Justitia. The Olympic bronze medal-winner will replace the Swedish Whitbread veteran, Roger Nilsson, who is in hospital with an infected knee.

Smith, who began the race as skipper of the ill-fated Spanish maxi, Fortuna, which was dismasted and forced to retire from the race within a week of the start, will be reunited with the former Fortuna crewman, Paul Standbridge, who joined Intrum last week.

Smith, 37, said last night: "I'm thrilled to be back in the race and can't wait for the Southern Ocean, but it is a great shame that this has happened to Roger Nilsson."

Nilsson's knee began to swell up during the last few days of the first leg and when his condition got worse during the stop-over he was flown back to Stockholm, where he had intensive treatment for the infection. The Swede decided over the weekend that it would be unwise to continue in the race. "I'm very sad that I will be unable to continue, but wish the crew and Lawrie the best of luck," he said.

Intrum finished a disappointing fifth on the first stage from Southampton to Punta del Este and Smith and Standbridge are seen as key elements in their attempt to close the 16-hour gap on Chris Dickson's first placed 60-footer, Tokio. When the fleet set out on Saturday on the 7,500-mile second stage, to Fremantle, Australia.

Drastic changes to the Olympic yachting programme and a new set of simplified race rules for club events have been agreed at the annual conference of the International Yacht Racing Union (IYRU) meeting in Toronto.

The 1996 Olympic regatta at Savannah, Georgia, will be held over short trapezoidal courses finishing with a broad reach in an effort to provide faster, more interesting action for television viewers. With courses set as far as 11 miles down river from the Olympic centre, crews will be transported with their boats to the racing areas on giant 300ft barges.

A ceiling of 443 competitors placed on the event by the International Olympic Committee has forced the IYRU to organise regional trials for the Games. In all but the Star and Finn classes, the medals will be decided over a two-day final series of races involving the top crews only.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

FA Cup Preliminary

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Endleigh Insurance League

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Second division

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Third division

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

GM Vauxhall Conference

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Scottish League

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

First division

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Yesterday

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Yesterday

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Yesterday

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Yesterday

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
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WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Yesterday

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
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MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Yesterday

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
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MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

Yesterday

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division

First division	Second division
ARSENAL 50, 31, 73	BRISTOL CITY 1, 1, 1
COVENTRY 27, 49	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
PSWICH 15, 62	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
MANCHESTER 11, 10, 70	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
LEEDS 47, 56	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1
WOLVERHAMPTON 1, 1, 1	LEICESTER 1, 1, 1

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division

13	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
14	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
15	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
16	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
17	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
18	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
19	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
20	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
21	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
22	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
23	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
24	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
25	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
26	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
27	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
28	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
29	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
30	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
31	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
32	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
33	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
34	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
35	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
36	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
37	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
38	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
39	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
40	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
41	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
42	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
43	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
44	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
45	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
46	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
47	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
48	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
49	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
50	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
51	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
52	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
53	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
54	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
55	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
56	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
57	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
58	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
59	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
60	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
61	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
62	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
63	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
64	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
65	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
66	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
67	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
68	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
69	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
70	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
71	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
72	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
73	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
74	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
75	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
76	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
77	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
78	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
79	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
80	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
81	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
82	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
83	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
84	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
85	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
86	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
87	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
88	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
89	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
90	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
91	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
92	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
93	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
94	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
95	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
96	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
97	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
98	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
99	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20
100	Sheff Wed	18	4	3	3	13	12	1	2	4	8	11	20



THE crew of Queens Tower/London University put their backs into it (above) as they sweep to victory in the women's coxless fours in the Fuller's Pairs Head from Mortlake to Putney on Saturday (Mike Rosewell writes). The world champions, Steve Redgrave and Mat-

thew Pinsent, joined by their fellow internationals Richard Manners and Ben Hunt-Davis, were the overall winners, rowing under Leander colours. In recent years the event has been won by a quad scull, the fastest boat type, but Leander not only won in a coxless four,

but were 19 seconds faster than the top quad, a Tideway Scullers crew containing three of this year's national crew. The Tideway Scullers did not have a comfortable last three miles in a close battle with Nottingham County's top entry. It brought a complaint from Wade

Hall-Craggs, the Scullers' stroke, after the race. Nottingham, who lost ground when they crabbed in rough water at the Bandstand, were themselves not happy with the steering of a Leander quad which led off the 500-crew flotilla. Head racing produces such situations and, as

Redgrave, whose crew started 23rd and had a lot of overtaking to do, said: "We had to draw in our blades to pass a drunken safety boat." Peter Haining, the lightweight world sculling champion, who will race Redgrave and Hall-Craggs in a challenge match over the

same course next Saturday, also had some overtaking to undertake in his composite quad, which included Chris Spencer and Andy Booth, his national champion partner.

Results, page 25

Montgomerie takes pressure in stride

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN VALDEERRAMA

COLIN Montgomerie began the fourth round of the Volvo Masters with a one-stroke lead over a star-studded field and one of European golf's richest prizes within his grasp. If he could win at Valderrama it would be the most illustrious victory of his professional career. More importantly, it would prove that at 30 he had the temperament and skill to cope with the pressures of leading his peers for the final 18 holes, which he had never done before.

with the twin challenges of the difficulty of the course and the grinding burden of the pressure of leading. "Fair dos. Monty was awesome," Clarke, his playing partner, said.

"I have never been under such pressure," Montgomerie said. "I had only six bogeys in four rounds and that is a tribute to my good driving. This was certainly one of the best rounds of my life. To win here means a lot to me."

Nobody gives you a win here. You have got to earn it. I thought I needed a 70 today to win, but I didn't, and that is a tribute to Darren Clarke. To be nine under par around this course as he was and not win is unlucky. I happened to play very, very well this week."

Since turning professional, Montgomerie has improved his position in the order of merit annually — from 164th in 1987 to 14th in 1990, fourth in 1991 and third last year.

Victory and the £125,000 that went with it here, also earned him a hefty bonus of £125,000, which was sufficient to make him this year's winner of the Order of Merit with £613,682.70. Nick Faldo was the runner-up with £558,738.33. "I am sorry that Faldo was here and not completely 100 per cent," Montgomerie said. "But knowing that I am number one, Faldo is second, Ian Woosnam third and Bernhard Langer fourth means a lot to me. I am very proud to be number one on the pile."

The money and the prestige are only the half of it. As a result of winning the order of merit, Montgomerie has earned the right to play in all three major championships in the United States next year, as well as a ten-year exemption on the European Tour. He has also earned a place in the Johnnie Walker world championship in Jamaica next month, where the first prize is £350,000.

It was the fourth victory of

Montgomerie's career. Between his second and third, in Scandinavia in 1991 and Holland last July, he had had seven second places. He rarely looked like coming second again. He made only one mistake on his outward half when he fluffed a chip on the seventh. He was two ahead of Clarke and Gifford at the ninth.

When he faced the inevitable moments of truth, he measured up to them success-

fully. He got up and down from a deep bunker on the left of the 14th with ease. "It was not very difficult," he said. "I fancy myself in bunkers. I often expect to hole out."

More difficult was his second shot on the 16th, when he daringly threaded a three-iron through the trees after hitting an uncharacteristically inaccurate drive.

He did not flinch with the water on the 17th, pitching to nine feet and holing his second putt of three feet. And that, to all intents and purposes, was that. He had a two-stroke lead with one hole remaining.

Gifford had a 69 and looked as though he would be tied with Clarke for second place. Clarke had other ideas, however. He rammed in a putt of 18 feet for a birdie three on the 18th hole. It gave him a 68 and second position outright.

Although the day and the tournament belonged to Montgomerie, the Ryder Cup player, Clarke's is a name for the future.

Gallacher favourite for Cup captaincy

BY JOHN HOPKINS

THE ticklish question of the captaincy of the European team in the 1995 Ryder Cup team at Oak Hill, New York, could be resolved by the end of this month. Bernard Gallacher has emerged as the clear favourite to be named captain again.

At a meeting of the Ryder Cup committee to be held on November 25, Gallacher's name will be nominated to lead the European team at Rochester.

No other candidates have been put forward, although Tony Jacklin is willing to stand again if required. However, it is felt he is too out of touch with modern players and, besides, now lives in the United States. Assuming Gallacher agrees to the nomination, an announcement will be made immediately.

Ken Schofield, executive director of the PGA European Tour, said: "The feedback I

have been getting from the players is that they all want him to stand again. Personally we want him, too. He and Tom Watson [captain of the US team at the Belfry two months ago] were both great captains."

Gallacher indicated on many occasions that he was standing down after the match at The Belfry last September, when the Americans won 15-13. He is thought to be prepared to change his mind, however, under pressure from players and officials. It would be his third term as captain.

It is likely that there will be a change in the qualification process for the next match. Schofield said he thought it was time for the money won by European players in the three US major championships to be included in the Ryder Cup table. This is a sensible and overdue change.

Law Report November 8 1993 House of Lords

Telephone tapping documents not to be preserved for use at trial

Regina v Preston (Stephen)
Regina v Prestoo (Zena)
Regina v Clarke
Regina v Austen
Regina v Salter

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Templeman, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Browne-Wilkinson and Lord Mustill

[Speeches November 4]
The destruction before trial of documents relating to intercepted telephone calls did not amount to a material irregularity in the trial, since the investigating authority was under a duty to destroy the documents as soon as they were no longer required "for the purpose of preventing or detecting serious crime" within section 4(2) of the interception of Communications Act 1985 and that phrase did not extend to the prosecution of such crime.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing appeals by Stephen Preston, Zena Prestoo, Nicholas Clarke, Anthony Austen, and Jeremy Salter against the decision of the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division (Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice Scott Baker and Mr Justice Hilden) (The Times May 13, 1992, (1992) 95 Cr App R 359) dismissing their appeals against their convictions for conspiracy to evade the prohibition on the importation of cannabis resin.

Section 2 of the 1985 Act provides: "(1) ... the secretary of state may issue a warrant requiring the person to whom it is addressed to intercept, in the course of their transmission by post or ... public telecommunication system, ... communications ..."

"(2) The secretary of state shall not issue a warrant ... unless he considers ... [it] ... necessary ..."

(3) for the purpose of preventing or detecting serious crime ..."

Section 6 provides: "(1) Where the secretary of state issues a warrant he shall make ... arrangements for ... securing ... (a) that the requirements of ... (2) and (3) below are satisfied ..."

"(2) ... (a) the extent to which the material is disclosed; (b) the number of persons to whom any of the material is disclosed; (c) the extent to which the material is copied; and (d) the number of copies made of any of the material, is limited to the minimum that is necessary as mentioned in section 2(2) above ..."

"(3) ... each copy ... of any ... material is destroyed ... (d) that the material is no longer necessary as mentioned in section 2(2) above ..."

Section 9 provides: "(1) In any proceedings before any court or tribunal no evidence shall be adduced and no question in cross-examination shall be asked which ... tends to suggest ... (a) that a warrant has been issued ..."

Mr Sydney Kentridge, QC, who did not appear at the trial, and Mr Simon Stafford-Michael for Stephen Preston; Mr Geoffrey Robertson, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Roderick Price for Zena Prestoo; Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Lionel Lassarman for Nicholas Clarke; Mr John Perry, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Brendan Keany for Anthony Austen; Mr Andrew Collins, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Michel Blais for Jeremy Salter; Mr Alan Moles, QC, who did not appear at the trial, Mr John Aspinall and Mr Philip Havers, who did not appear below, for the Crown.

LORD MUSTILL said that the defendants did not deny that there had been a conspiracy to import

cannabis but disclaimed any part in it. In particular, Stephen Preston asserted that his activities were the result of duress imposed on him by the true conspirators.

That placed in context the crucial significance attached by the prosecution to a cluster of telephone calls passing between apparatus to which the defendants had access and explained why they were at such pains to prise out of the investigating and prosecuting authorities as much information as possible about the nature and fruits of the intercept, in the hope that it would show either that Stephen Preston first came on the scene as a result of duress, or at least that nothing had been said during the telephone calls to suggest that he or any other defendant was party to whatever conspiracy there might have been.

The possibility of there having been a telephone intercept had emerged during evidence. Prosecuting counsel had then disclosed that a warrant had been issued under section 2 of the Act. There followed a discussion of the ways in which it might be possible without breaching section 9 to disclose intercepted material which might assist the defence.

After discussions not only with the Attorney-General but also with advisers to the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Home Office, the court was told that the Attorney-General is of the opinion that it is not his duty ... to acquiesce myself with such material as exists relating to the intercept ...

The defence then contended that the prosecution could not fairly be allowed to invite inferences from the evidence which, if accepted, would disclose information which might show that the inferences were unfounded and that the evidence should therefore be excluded. The judge rejected the application.

The gist of the Attorney-General's advice, or perhaps more accurately the instructions, to prosecuting counsel had been that since nothing which might be disclosed to him, and through him to the defendants, could in the light of section 9 be put in evidence there was no need to override the interests of secrecy by any further disclosure.

That proposition was unsustainable. The fact that an item of information could not be put in evidence by a party did not mean that it was worthless. Often, the train of enquiry which led to the discovery of evidence which was admissible at a trial might include an item which was not admissible, and that might apply, although less frequently, to the defence as well as to the prosecution. The test was materiality, not admissibility.

The Attorney-General's proposition also overlooked the essential function of the investigating and prosecuting authorities to ensure that the prosecution of a suspected offender was conducted fairly.

One aspect of that duty was to consider whether among the material to which the authority alone was privy there was material which suggested that the suspicious were unfounded, or that apparently damaging evidence should be viewed in a more favourable light. Upon such consideration the authority should decide whether the prosecution

should proceed at all, and if so in what way it should be presented.

Counsel for the prosecution played an indispensable part in that function, and his role as arbiter between the adversarial interests of the prosecution and the broader dictates of justice could not be effectively performed unless he knew everything material that there was to know. The Attorney-General's advice seemed to ignore that entirely.

If the Attorney-General was right it had to follow that even if the contents of the intercept would clearly demonstrate to prosecuting counsel that the accused person was innocent he had to be kept in ignorance of it, and in the interests of secrecy led to press unwittingly for an unjust conviction. That was a *raison d'être* indeed, and his Lordship would not hold it to be the law of England unless compelled to do so.

He found no such compulsion in the Attorney-General's advice, for even if it gave a sound reason for the disclosure of the intercept, which it did not, the logic could not be transferred to the supply of material, admissible or otherwise, to prosecuting counsel. If that, too, was to be withheld, a justification had to be found elsewhere. The right place to search for it was in section 2.

The defendants had submitted that the words "for the purpose of preventing or detecting serious crime" in section 2(2)(b) went beyond the foreseeing of future crimes and the discovery that they had been committed in the past, and by whom and in what manner, and extended to the amassing of evidence with a view to the prosecution of offenders.

Thus the "arrangements" made by the secretary of state under section 6(1) had, by virtue of the references back to section 2(2) in sections 6(2) and (3), to contemplate that the documents would not be destroyed while they were necessary for the purpose of a prosecution, using that term in its broadest sense.

Now that the disclosure of unused materials compiled in relation to an actual or alleged offence had been recognised as one of the functions of the investigating and prosecuting authorities the arrangements had to be such that the documents would not immediately be destroyed but would be kept available for disclosure until an intended prosecution was either abandoned or completed.

Any destruction of material soon after it had been compiled was therefore a material irregularity in the course of the trial within the meaning of section 2(1)(c) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 and the provision could not apply.

The Crown's argument gave a narrower reading to section 2(1)(c). The purposes for which the trial of the warrant, and hence the retention of the physical material and the disclosure of the contents, were necessary did not extend to the prosecution of suspected

offenders and the destruction of the materials was therefore not only a permissible act but one which those responsible were bound by the provisions of the Act to carry out.

In such a case the defendants could hardly argue with any hope of success that it amounted to an irregularity, and they would have to fall back on other objections, notably that even if the destruction was legitimate it created a state of affairs whose subsequent reliance on the bare fact of the telephone calls was unfair.

On the wording of the Act considered in isolation, the expression "preventing and detecting" called up only two stages of the fight against crime. First, the foreseeing of potential crimes which had not yet been committed. Second, the seeking out of crimes, not so foreseeable, which had already been committed. There the purpose came to an end.

His Lordship accepted that the successful prosecution of one crime might in a sense prevent another, either because it put the particular offender out of circulation for a while, or because a conviction in respect of one crime might deter the commission of others.

But although prevention in that sense might be a by-product of a prosecution the word seemed a very odd choice if the purpose of the interception was to reach forward right up to the moment of a verdict. If that was what Parliament had intended there was no reason why it should not have said so in plain language.

That it was not, however, to be reconciled with the general law on disclosure and the forensic handling of sensitive material. To what if any extent might favourable materials, that is, those which pointed towards the possibility that the defendant was innocent, be disclosed to those who had it in their power to see that injustice was avoided? And if the Crown's argument was sound, by when did the statute contemplate that the power would be exercised?

The dilemma was already plain. At the one extreme the only intellectual ground ever advanced for saying that the materials should not be disclosed at all, namely the Attorney-General's argument on admissibility, did not hold water. At the other, the notion that intercepted material should be disclosed in the same way as other unused material, subject to the same restrictions as in the case of any other sensitive material, had to be discarded.

There had accordingly, so the argument ran, to be some intermediate solution whereby someone in the chain consisting of telephone engineer, transcriber, notetaker, officer in the intelligence unit, senior police officer in the case, Crown Prosecution Service official, decided that the material was favourable to the defendant, and caused, by some mechanism not explained, a prosecution which would otherwise have been brought to be aborted.

In the end the very real apprehensions voiced by counsel for the defendants could not prevail over the plain intent and wording of the Act. The need for surveillance and the need to keep it secret were undeniable. So also was the need to protect to the feasible maximum the privacy of those whose conversations were overheard without their consent. Hence sections 2 and 6.

Those policies were in flat contradiction to current opinions on the transparency of the trial process. Something had to give way, and the history, structure and terms of the 1985 Act left his Lordship in little doubt that it had to be the duty to give complete disclosure of unused materials.

The result was a vulnerable compromise, but it might be the best that could be achieved. At all events it was the one which the statute law did achieve, and his Lordship therefore accepted the argument for the Crown on the principal issue in the appeal. It followed that the decision of the Court of Appeal in *R v Preston* (The Times March 23, 1992, (1992) 95 Cr App R 427) would be overruled.

The alternative argument for the defendants had been that if the physical intercept materials were rightly destroyed and their contents irretrievably lost, the interests of fairness demanded that the evidence derived from the metering of the telephone calls [that is, the telephone company records of the making of calls but not of their contents] should have been ruled out under section 78(1) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

His Lordship was satisfied that the decision of the trial judge refusing to rule it out was within the bounds of a reasonable exercise of his discretion and it was right. In every case where evidence of metering was admitted there was a risk, albeit probably not large, that the inference sought to be drawn was ill-founded, and would be contradicted if all the conversations were recorded and put in evidence. But that was a risk regularly accepted in such cases.

The additional factor that some one did know what was said, but was not allowed to tell, except for the purpose of preventing an unjust prosecution, could not alter the logic of the position. Parliament had grasped the

Hospital not liable

Woolger v West Surrey and North East Hampshire Health Authority

The method by which a trained nurse lifted a patient was a matter for the nurses' individual judgment, so that the hospital authority, was not in breach of its duty to exercise reasonable care for the safety of the nurse by not warning her against the use of a method which caused her a back injury. The Court of Appeal (Lord

Justice Dillon and Mr Justice Hallett) so held in a reserved judgment on October 22 in dismissing an appeal by Mrs Jill Woolger, of William Beesley Crescent, Bramcote, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, from the dismissal by Judge Quentin Edwards QC, at her appeal to the County Court of her claim for damages for personal injuries against West Surrey and North East Hampshire Health Authority.

هكذا من الأصل



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The West End transfer of
Pinter's *Moonlight*,
amusing and agitating
in just 75 minutes

ARTS

BOOKS page 31
More from John Grigg's
history of *The Times*: the
battle for change under
William Rees-Mogg



ROCK: Phil Collins maintains that his new album, released today, is his best yet; World Party helps to keep the good tunes going

Mr Nice Guy rattles his musical cage

A man known to value native Hancock above any imported M. Hulot, Phil Collins has invited by the Dead Company to the recent unveiling of a plaque commemorating the life and work of Enny Hill. There, to his excitement, he spotted the veteran radio producer, Dennis Main Wilson, responsible in part for many of his favourite vintage series. "You've got to tell people how much they mean to you," the singer prefaces, bright-eyed at the memory. "So I went over an said, 'I don't want you to go away without knowing how much you've reached my life.'"

Alan Jackson meets the star who would like to be taken a bit more seriously

McCartney, it is hard to conceive of anyone burning with ambition to be a Phil Collins of the 21st century. It comes down to perceptions, I suggest, when we meet at the Surrey farmhouse that provides a base for his band Genesis; the ordinary blockish element outweighs even a Versace wardrobe and militates against him being taken as seriously as he might wish.

Please, speak your mind," he encourages generously, as I attempt to find a positive way of saying that his superficial image — chirpy and non-cerebral, despite the darkness of much of his writing — must have worried off as many people, myself included, as it has attracted. "People form their opinions early on, make a generalisation about you on the basis of what they read and hear — I know, I do it myself," he allows. "And where they put you is where you stay, unless you're successful in rattling your cage."

While not exactly a major departure from the past, a new album, *Both Sides*, released today, signals a determination by Collins not to let popular expectations stop him from following his own instincts. The least obviously user-friendly of his five solo projects, it has none of the r'n'b undertones or punchy horn breaks that made 1985's *No Jacket Required* so popular, for example, and few examples of his ability to style a memorable pop hook.

Instead, a sustained mood of regret permeates songs of introspection and social observation, leaving open the possibility that he will alienate a section of his fan base, without drawing in new listeners to replace it. "Maybe my biggest successes have already been," Collins accepts. "Yes, I wonder what his fate will be, but no, I won't lose sleep over it."

The residual appeal of an artist who has already sold in excess of 35 million albums is sufficient to ensure that this latest work will be a massive hit relative to most of the week's other new offerings. Whatever the record's commercial future — and it will be supported by a 12-month world tour beginning in the new year — its maker is proud to say it represents his best work to date. This proclamation



Phil Collins: "People form their opinions about you early on. And where they put you is where you stay"

from the man responsible for every word, note and instrument sound across its 11 tracks — not one other musician was used — suggests a high level of self-confidence behind the rigorously un-starlike demeanour. Which may explain why Collins also feels able to pursue a parallel career in film, despite the number of his peers who have failed attempting the same.

Buster, though far from the same box office hit in America as here at home, notified Hollywood of his intentions. Now he aims to spend perhaps one week in eight in Los Angeles, where he and his wife

Jill are renovating a home, doing the all-important breakfasts and lunches with writers and directors. The aim is to avoid any role which alludes to his musical profile, which is why director Roger Spottiswood's *And the Band Played On* so appealed. Based on the book by Randy Schultz, it details the initial reluctance of America's governmental and medical administrations to accept as real the threat of AIDS. The major film studios showed themselves reluctant to take a risk with the subject matter, so the cable network HBO eventually funded a production starring

Matthew Modine and Lily Tomlin. Featuring cameos by such stars as Angelica Huston, Richard Gere, Steve Martin and Collins himself (he plays the Greek owner of a chain of gay bath houses in San Francisco), it has proved so successful that it will now be given a network airing by NBC and cinema release throughout Europe. Meanwhile, a just-completed role in a 15-minute short developed by the Royal College of Art gives him the opportunity to poke a little fun at his critics. It concerns a novelist who responds to a bad press by having all his critics shot.

Haunted by the Beatles

World Party/
Aimee Mann
Brixton Academy

HOWEVER much the modern rock 'n' roll circus may seem to be spinning towards ever more dizzying extremes, there will always be performers who are keen to reaffirm the eternal verities. It was the ghost of the Beatles, among others, which haunted the stage at Brixton on Wednesday, as first Aimee Mann and then World Party, both playing at moderate volume and doing little more than stand behind their microphones throughout, proceeded to string together a set of songs enjoyable primarily for their good tunes, proper harmonies and thoughtful lyrics.

George Harrison was at World Party's elbow, in spirit anyway, as he led the band into "All I Gave", with its tart slide-guitar sound and swooping melody, while comic songwriter Neil Innes joined Mann on stage in person to sing one of the pseudo-Beatles songs which he wrote for the 1960s TV documentary *The Beatles*.

So far so good, but while both acts displayed their august musical provenance with pride, neither of them completely transcended the sum of such influences. In World Party's case, a solid and at times inspired performance was marred by a lack of drive and a strange reluctance to land the knockout punch.

Armed with material from all three of their albums, but mostly featuring songs from this year's *Bang!* (their most successful yet), they negotiated an unevenly paced sequence of peaks and troughs with stoical precision. Starting with "Is It Like Today?" and "Message In The Box", the material ranged from the acoustic guitar harmony-pop of "Mystery Girl" to the full-tilt go-go beat finale of "Give It All Away". They lost momentum during an extended bout of "encores" until a rousing version of "Ship Of Fools" finally gave the audience what it had paid to hear. Given the amount of exposure she has enjoyed, it was initially a surprise to find Aimee Mann, formerly of American group T1 Tuesday, as support act. Tall and willowy, in a black frock coat, black drawstrings and frilly white shirt, she looked strikingly like Chrissie Hynde, but for the shock of blonde hair, and sounded no unlike her. Surrounded by a capable four-piece band, there was a hesitant, slightly nervous quality to her performance despite the unfavourably cool nature of songs like "Could've Been Anyone" and the wonderfully jaunty single "I Should've Known".

LYNNE TRUSS

DAVID SINCLAIR

TELEVISION: Guilt and paranoia flourish in Tennessee Williams's *Suddenly Last Summer*

Feast for sore psyches

Several questions perennially occur to people after seeing Tennessee Williams's astounding 1957 play *Suddenly Last Summer*. "Do you think the writer was basically unhappy?" they ponder. "Could he have been in psychoanalysis, possibly? Why do the words 'guilt' and 'certifiable paranoia' spring to mind? How interesting that the girl, Catharine — threatened with lobotomy in the play — is referred to as 'Sister'; you don't suppose, and this is just a wild surmise, that Williams's own sister was lobotomised?"

Without detracting from the perception of audiences, Williams rarely made such questions difficult to arrive at, since arguably each of his great plays was a joint-the-dots of the writer's tortured psyche, sometimes even culminating in a blatant plea for compassion (for "the kindness of strangers"), in case one's natural pity fell short. *Suddenly Last Summer* — shown on Saturday in *Performance* (BBC2), directed by Richard Eyre and starring Maggie Smith, Natasha Richardson and Rob Lowe — confides to the world that Williams was scared of being eaten alive by Latin pick-ups on his holidays. No wonder he is said to have regretted it.

The play is known as a great three-hander, famous for the 1959 movie performances from Katharine Hepburn, Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift. But this is less a play about Mrs Venable, Catharine and Dr Cukrowicz than it is a well-crafted exercise in exposition. What did happen last summer, when Mrs Venable's adored son Sebastian died in Europe while travel-

ling with cousin Catharine? The truth is pretty unpleasant, and the characters are subservient to the anecdote — Mrs Venable because she doesn't want to hear it; Catharine because she is being destroyed by it; and nice young Dr Cukrowicz because he thinks it's better out than in.

You see, if Sebastian devoured people metaphorically ("I'm famished for blondes"), to his surprise and misfortune they literally devoured him back. Such a climactic revelation tends to unbalance all else, with the result that, painfully though Catharine finally delivers the story — and Natasha Richardson was full of brave agony on Saturday — the audience just doesn't feel for her. With a mixture of revulsion and relief, it thinks

instead, "Good heavens, they don't mention this in the brochures." Saturday's production recognised this danger, and took measures to counter it. Eyre made the play highly visual: warm pink-and-peach costumes, dreamy short-focus lighting, cinematic close-ups. A famous feature of *Suddenly Last Summer* is the menacing jungle in Mrs Venable's back yard, a metaphor for Sebastian's belief in nature's pitilessness. Eyre transposed bits of the action into the undergrowth, thus incidentally making it possible for Richardson to emerge, attractively dishevelled, for her big scene.

The performances, meanwhile, were strong and clear. Rob Lowe looked properly handsome, concerned and in-

trigued; Natasha Richardson was beautiful in her Schiaparelli, perfectly spoken, and occasionally genuinely desperate; while Maggie Smith, despite the unnerving lateral glide of her Southern accent, was a fine embodiment of grim pearl-necklaced control. Eyre's *coup de théâtre* was to have Catharine's climactic words — "They had devoured parts of him" — delivered straight to camera, her face lit brightly. It was a valiant attempt to get us to care; and also a neat reminder that Tennessee Williams, with all that soft underbelly he felt forever compelled to expose, was rightly scared of being devoured by his audience, too.

LYNNE TRUSS

DAVID SINCLAIR



Richardson, Smith and Lowe star in a fine *Summer*

CONCERTS: The Philharmonia gives a fearless performance in London; the Hallé brings the house to its feet in Manchester

Saved by fun of the fair

THE outdoor carnival atmosphere of Stravinsky's *Petrushka* could hardly be a greater contrast to the cerebral Piano Concerto of his contemporary Schoenberg, and the two works made an effective coupling in the Philharmonia's concert on Thursday night under Esa-Pekka Salonen. In truth, the concert really took off only after the interval for the Stravinsky, though the Schoenberg could not have had a more sympathetic advocate.

Axel Brendel is one of music's great intellects, his formidable analytical skills as evident from his performances as from his speaking and writing on the subject. And it was those skills that enabled him to steer a safe passage — albeit with the aid of a score — through the serial complexity of the Concerto. Even without being able to follow all the transformations of themes on itself, it was possible to appreciate the clarity that

players leaping fearfully into the centre of things. Rarely has the fun of the fair seemed so immediate, the cross-cutting of ideas so vibrant, as though one were actually passing through the fairground, experiencing snatches of frantic, varied activity. The work is a display piece for a virtuoso orchestra, and the Philharmonia's principals seized their chances. Salonen skilfully held together the disparate elements of this astonishing score, while bringing out the theatricality by emphasising the sharp edges of combined textures: the trumpet (masterly solos by John Wallace) and the flutist-tonguing flute, followed by flutes and harp. For all the overflowing vitality of the piece, this orchestra's brass department never sounds coarse, giving the effect of the raised bells of the final section a particular potency.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Tasty starter to a full meal

AMONG the several encouraging aspects of Kent Nagano's work with the Hallé are his efforts to get the orchestra involved with whatever else is of high quality in the arts in Manchester. One obvious priority, which was to form an alliance with one of Britain's most creative composers, has been duly and fruitfully observed. Introducing his *Cor d'oeuvre* to the audience in the Free Trade Hall, John Cusken — who became professor of music at Manchester University at the same time as Nagano became musical director of the Hallé — drew on culinary terminology to explain the title and describe the content of the piece. Actually, although it was designed as a kind of overture, it is more than an hors d'oeuvre. It is not very long and it involves only a small (and unlikely) proportion of the orchestra but it is a thoughtful and intriguing score centred on a most effective

ly written solo horn part. With the hornist in the middle of the platform, six double basses on the far right and a pianist and harpist on the far left, the appropriate metaphor has less to do with cooking than with preaching — to the fishes on one side perhaps and the birds on the other. Though not in the same element as either of them, the horn is eloquent enough to produce reactions, the basses occasionally attracted to the surface to express themselves in poetic harmonies, the piano and harp provoked into colourful if not quite coherent and often percussive chatter. Conducted by the composer, *Cor d'oeuvre* was brilliantly played by the Hallé principal hornist, David Cripps.

Ruggiero Ricci is a great survivor among violinists and, as he displayed in his Kreisler encore, much of the virtuoso technique flourishes as before. But in his abbreviated version of Paganini's Violin Concerto No 1 (which followed the Cascken), while some things were accomplished with breathtaking facility, other things were scarcely accomplished at all. The most encouraging aspect in Nagano's work with the Hallé is that he gets the orchestra to play very well for him. There were insecurities in the exposed early stages of Mahler's First Symphony but, once it assumed its momentum, a structurally well-plotted interpretation resolved the uncertainties, lived through the emotional experience with intensity, and accumulated tensions so impressively well released that it brought a full house gratefully to its feet.

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Transmogrifying the Thunderer

Peter Stothard on an enjoyable account of the battles for readers and against unions at *The Times* under William Rees-Mogg

There have been three official historians of *The Times*: their seven volumes, dressed in uniform dark blue covers, now stretch over some 14 inches of shelving. Although readers may long quarrel over what were the best and worst periods in the past of this newspaper, there should be much less argument about who has written best about that past.

Unlike most of his predecessors' work, John Grigg's account of *The Times* between 1966 and 1981 aims more to comprehend than to be comprehensive, and more to challenge old assumptions than to reinforce them. It is the first part of our paper's history written by one who played no part in the events he describes. It looks outwards from newspaper department to the world, as much as inwards from one editorial office to another. It is both the most pleasurable time to read and the most useful volume for those shaping this newspaper today.

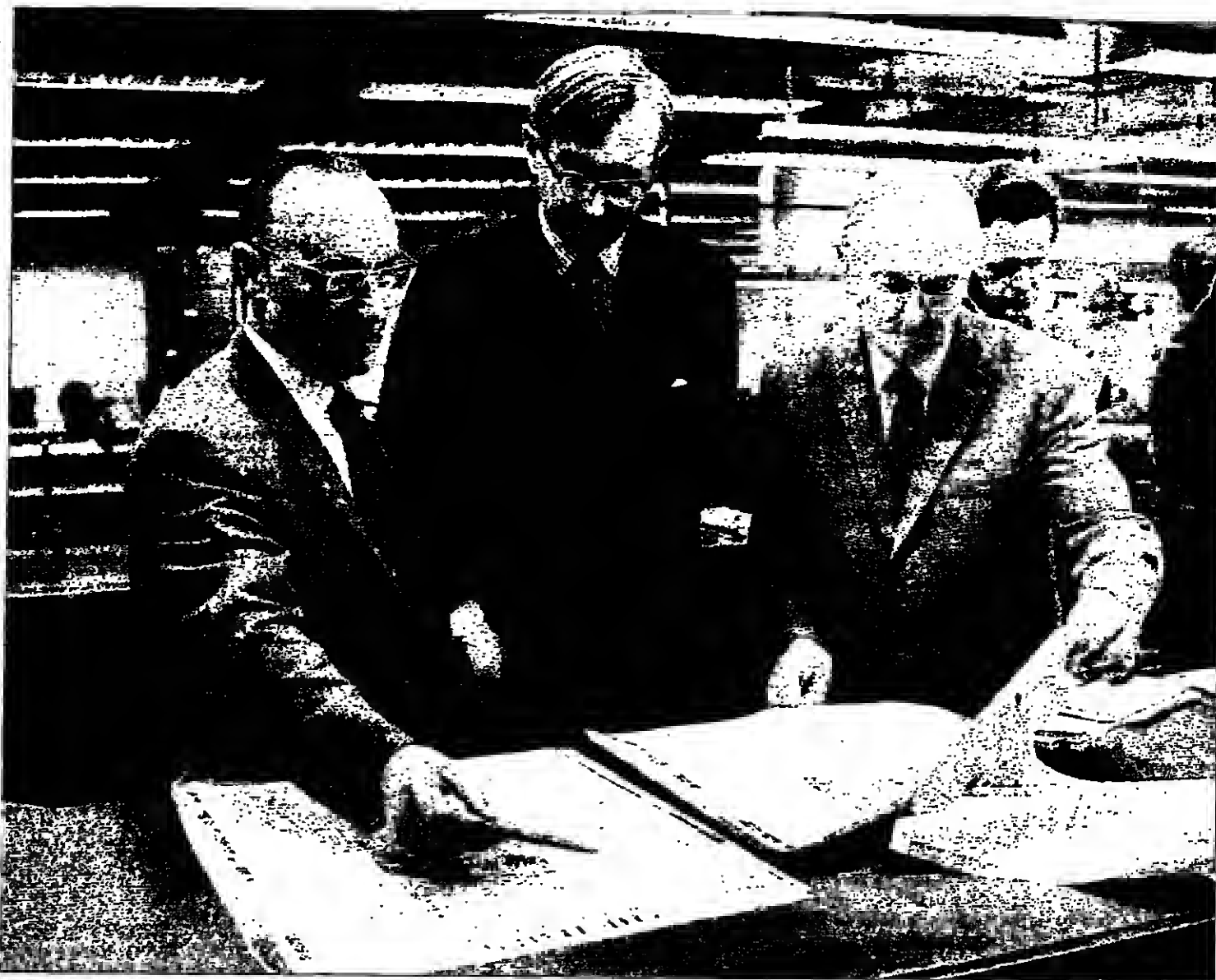
By the time that Roy Thomson bought *The Times* in 1966, the greatest damage to its position of intellectual and market leadership had already been done. As Grigg recalls, the new management had to deal with "the extraordinary insouciance" of its predecessors in allowing *The Daily Telegraph* to price itself into dominance. In 1914, Lord Northcliffe, the first competitive modern owner of *The Times*, had cut its price and almost matched the sales of its main rival. Twenty years later a price-cutting *Telegraph* counter attack was not matched by *The Times*; and thus there opened the "enormous gap" which only in 1993 is being attacked by methods, today judged controversial but, in fact, followed by time.

Back in 1967, the Thomson strategy was merely to hold the price at sixpence, to prevent more than *The Telegraph*, while expanding and brightening the newspaper itself. Much of Grigg's story is the story of that brightening, studied with details culled for the first time from conversations with *Times* journalists and the reading of their diaries.

But always in the background was the hopeless economics of *Times* production in those union-dominated days, and the self-deceptions that took the place of true grappling with the causes of decline.

The job of changing the newspaper for the Thomson era fell to William Rees-Mogg, now our distinguished columnist, who, in his second week of office, introduced readers for the first time to some of the names of those who for so long had been writing for them. The end of anonymity was reasonably well received, although one of the parliamentary correspondents, Windsor Davis, resigned in protest, saying that before he joined *The Times* he had known Windsor Davis and had not thought much of him: "But to be called parliamentary correspondent of *The Times* — that was really something."

Three months later a separate *Business News* was added — and launched at a party entertained by the then *Times* star, Warren Mitchell. The lead story on March 21 was an account of the first sighting of Cape Horn of Francis Chichester's yacht *Gipsy Moth* on its solo navigation of the world. "THE FIRST PICTURE OFF CAPE HORN" was the five-column headline, something of a surprise for those still recovering from the publication of any news at all on the *Times* front page. There were shocks



William Rees-Mogg (centre) as Editor of *The Times* with his head printer George Vowles (left) and night editor Michael Hardy (right)

too from the famous full-page nude advertisement affair — greeted by one letter writer with the observation that "topless people" now took *The Times*.

Rees-Mogg gave *The Times* both unpredictability and intellectual authority. But a successful economic strategy was the only secure basis for escaping its late-Victorian legacy

of stuffiness and for thundering opinions at the rest of the country. This eluded the managements of the Thomson years. For every day on which the newspaper broadened its appeal, entertaining Mick Jagger and Anthony Blunt, investigating police corruption and lost yachtsmen, there were two days on which the problems of producing *The*

Times worsened. A newspaper which had once been seen as a symbol of British greatness became increasingly associated with the British disease.

Grigg's book is full of amusing anecdotes and acute analysis of international events through *Times* writers' and managers' eyes. But the second Lord Thomson declined to

see the author. It is not difficult to understand why. The story, which began with Roy Thomson's hopes, ends with strikes, empty offices, Kenneth Thomson's retreat, and the beginning of the era that will be the subject of the next volume.

Peter Stothard is the Editor of *The Times*

A true-born Victorian

Walter Ellis

LORD DENNING
A Life
By Iris Freeman
Hutchinson, £25

This first biography of Lord Denning, England's most famous judge this century, is written with respect and obvious affection. Iris Freeman, a retired solicitor who previously worked as an educational psychologist, has a regard for her subject which, though not entirely uncritical, shines through. Denning has seen himself as a significant part of the legislature, with a duty to adapt the law as it stands until it conforms to his own Victorian values.

Denning sees himself as a "true born Englishman": the humble, small-town draper's background, like something out of H.G. Wells; his scholarship to Oxford; his retention of his Hampshire "burr" (he was raised near Basingstoke). But Freeman, herself Jewish, is

aware of what this view of the English might imply.

"In principle," she writes, "he conceded that a second generation immigrant could be English, but his heart was not in it. It was harder for a non-Anglican to belong. Readily and happily he accepted the alternative label 'British'. None of which is to say that Tom did not treat individual outsiders with the greatest courtesy and consideration, if he regarded them, in other words, as worthy."

Most controversial of his

pronouncements in old age were his comments to A.N. Wilson in *The Spectator* about the Guildford Four and the terrorist crimes for which they had recently been pardoned and for which they had wrongly served 14 years in prison. Denning hit back robustly at *The Spectator* for publishing what he called "selective, misleading" extracts from an interview, and that his remarks were "chit chat" and "digressions" which were not intended for publication.

Much earlier in his career, Denning had been censured by the Court of Appeal for not drawing to the jury's attention the fact that there was not "any shred of evidence" against a defendant, who just happened to be a Jew. He could be snobbish, too. When obliged to deal with divorce cases in the 1940s, he often recoiled from the "horrid details". But, he confided in his book, *The Due Process of Law*, "the sordidness was relieved when noble families were involved."

Marriage to Denning was a sacred estate. "I am convinced," he told students at King's College, London, in 1947, "that men and women only achieve a fully satisfied life when happily married and bringing up their children, the man at his work to provide for them, the woman in the house to rear them." Andrea Dworkin, eat his heart out.

But for all his old-fashioned values (he was, after all, born in January, 1899), Denning remains an honest man, obsessed with fairness and determined that people should understand what the law means, in simple language.

In landmark rulings on



Denning: freedom under the law — for the English

pensions and contract law, he introduced common sense alongside natural justice, and later, as Master of the Rolls, he stood up to government on every occasion on which he thought principles of real importance were at stake. "Freedom under the law" was, it should be remembered, his expression.

As Freeman makes abundantly clear, Denning was a model loving husband and a caring father, who stood foursquare in his defence of decency and the family. He believes to this day in capital punishment for "murder most foul" and, while it was legal, was not averse to sentences of flogging.

Many would argue that if he were 45 today, instead of 94, law and order in England might enjoy better prospects than are offered to us by the likes of Lord Woolf. But they should be aware that Olde England was not all beer and skittles. Tom Denning's extraordinary career reminds us of this fact.

The witch of popular western imagination is a dweller on the margins of communities. You will find her in a cottage in the middle of the woods, on the blasted heath or in a hut outside the village. Here, in another of Virago's wonderful collections of folklore, we also observe the witch in a sphere where the black arts are also domestic arts and a cauldron also serves as a mundane cooking pot.

I particularly enjoyed a story from the Cochiti Indians of North America, where a wife, on discovering her husband has been sleeping with all her sisters in turn, uses her medicine stone to turn him into a snake (witches usually have a dry wit and a sense of the appropriate transformation). Instead of returning to her faithless sisters, this witch simply sets off and, we are told, "nobody knew which way she went". One imagines that she may have joined the ranks of magic women, roaming an autonomous region of their own, dispensing wisdom and

Wise women get their own back

Lucy Lethbridge

THE VIRAGO BOOK OF WITCHES
Edited by Shahrulh Husain
Virago, £14.99

sound advice to those with domestic tribulations or languishing love lives.

There are plenty of these wise women wandering through these stories, adhering to a moral code that is entirely of their own making and meeting out, often quite arbitrarily, a justice of which they are the sole judge. They are sticklers to their own code: transformations — frog into prince, loathly lady into lovely maiden — are almost always effected by the implementation

of some kind of promise or by the display of honour.

When Sir Gawain, of King Arthur's court, honourably agrees to marry the hideous old witch who has saved the king's life, she presents him with the choice of having her as a beautiful maiden by night or by day. He wins himself a desirable wife for a full 24 hours by courteously telling her the choice is hers. An example of characteristically sensible witchy reasoning.

Shahrulh Husain's choice of witch folklore includes some gorgeous and lascivious tales of witch mythology that a witch-woman, neither wife nor maiden, is likely to be threateningly carnal and sexually insatiable.

The book's opening story, from India with its magically

Movie in the mind

Claire Messud

STREETS OF LAREDO
By Larry McMurtry
Orion, £15.99

Larry McMurtry could teach a thing or two to many writers of fewer words and greater pretensions. Like Dickens and Balzac, he has mastered the glorious art of storytelling that any reader, sophisticated or naive, can appreciate.

Lonesome Dove, his marvelous epic of the American West, recently made excellent television viewing, and his novel *The Last Picture Show* and *Terms of Endearment* have made terrific films; but the point about McMurtry's work is that they make even better books. His imagination is so vivid and his narration so transparent that each novel is like a private movie in the mind.

It is true that *Streets of Laredo*, the sequel to *Lonesome Dove*, offers less verisimilitude than his Pulitzer Prize-winning predecessor. In this latest novel, McMurtry repeats himself more: it is the lower tone peculiar to sequels, perhaps, but it may also result from the fact that this novel covers different ground.

Certainly its characters, its pace and its panoramic vision more than make up for the occasional slackening of the sentences. Set 20 years after the end of *Lonesome Dove*, *Streets of Laredo* is about a changed Texas, where the survivors of the last book have scattered and settled down into marriages and homesteads. The West, too, has settled down: the Apaches are gone, there is law in the land (or in the towns at least), and work for bounty hunters is scarce.

But Captain Woodrow Call is summoned up, arthritis and all, to chase a nasty Mexican train robber named Joey Garza. In order to do so, he rounds up his old deputy Pea Eye

Parker (after some effort) and Famous Shoes, the Kickapoo tracker, and other, less useful, companions.

The railroad representative on the expedition is a mild account by the name of Brookshire. He hails from Brooklyn, and his reactions to the West are analogous to the readers: he alternates between fascination and a horror, a "sickening sense that he...was about to blow away." Civilization, which until then 'just been a fancy word that preachers and professors and politicians bruted about,' suddenly takes on concrete meaning — even as it is lost to him.

It is not long before he — and the reader with him — has abandoned his duties: he passed beyond the world of ledgers, into a world of space and wind, of by nights and brilliant stars, of men who killed with bullets and men who burned dogs.

Amid the violence of this howling void, some civilising sparks must fly. As in all Westerns, they are the women: primarily Lorena, the whore of *Lonesome Dove*, now a school teacher, Pea Eye's wife and a mother of five; and Maria, Joey Garza's mother, who will fight for her son although he

hates her, and who otherwise lives for her two remaining, damaged children, a blind daughter and a demented son. McMurtry does not allow these women to fall into simple moulds: if anything, they are the tale's most complex characters.

This said, McMurtry's preoccupations are narrative, and no character is *that* complex. As long as they keep moving, it doesn't really matter — a strategy which works well because generally, when they stop, these characters of the still-Wild West end up dead.

McMurtry's Texas isn't a moral place, which, in a Western, is a great relief. Rather, his insistence on the rhythm of life, on the fact that as long as you are alive, it just goes on, is what renders his story so compelling. Once in the world of space and wind, the reader, like Brookshire, will plunge forward and stop at his peril.

THE FAMISHED ROAD

By Ben Okri

Jonathan Cape, £9.99
To mark the 25th anniversary of the Booker Prize, Cape has published a splendid commemorative edition of the 1991 winner. Drenched in the myths and ancestral stories of the author's native Nigeria, this is the story of Azaro, a spirit child, who endlessly lives and dies, always returning to the nomenclature of spirits. When he enters the phenomenal world, however, he encounters only sadness, suffering and violence. But this is not a melancholy book, there is too much magic, and Okri's prose is incandescent.

Contributors: Alison Burns, Brian Morton, Jason Cowley

The face of tomorrow's education



Today's thinkers and analysts are helping to create tomorrow's education service. This Friday in *The TES* Sir Claus Moser previews the report of his National Commission for Education.

OUT NOVEMBER 12

TES

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The General Secretary provides professional and administrative support for the membership; manages the Association's budget; is responsible for co-ordinating the Association's response on major issues and for liaison with other associations and influential figures in the educational world.

Applicants should have a wide experience of education and should be able administrators, adept at committee. They should be good at communicating with people and enjoy working and responding quickly under pressure.

Salary according to qualifications and experience but not less than £37,000.

Further details are available from GSA, 130 Regent Road, Leicester, LE1 7PG.

Applicants should write, enclosing a full C.V. and details of at least two professional referees, to the President, GSA, Wittington Girls School, Waddington Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, M14 6BL.

Closing date for applications: Friday 3rd December 1993.

FRANCIS HOLLAND SCHOOLS TRUST Assistant to the Bursar

Applicants should be computer literate with good general accounting skills and some word processing experience.

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Please apply with CV to the Bursar at 35 Bourne Street, London SW1W 8JA or ring 071 730 4977 for further details.

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Supervising the day-to-day financial management of the School to include: budgets, planning and controls, billing, fee collection, payroll and purchase ledgers, contracts, insurance, legal, etc.

Membership of Finance Committee of the Governors; Directorship of School's commercial trading company; and deputising for the Bursar as necessary.

The successful candidate for this position will most likely be a qualified accountant and will have demonstrated strong financial, analytical and management skills. Ideally, familiarity with an educational establishment would be a benefit. Remuneration negotiable, but will likely be in the region of £30,000+ plus benefits.

Applications in writing to: The Finance Director/Bursar, Stowe School, Buckingham MK18 5EH by 12th November 1993.

Chair in Law

The University invites applications for a Chair in any branch of Law consequent upon the appointment of Professor Cretney to a Senior Research Fellowship at All Souls.

For further details telephone Bristol (0272) 256450 (ansaphone after 5pm) or write to the Personnel Office (EO), University of Bristol, Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH, quoting reference C17.

Closing date: 26th November 1993.

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JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL LONDON SE22 8TE APPOINTMENT OF HEAD

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The School has 750 girls aged eleven to eighteen and its own preparatory school for 300 girls and boys aged four to eleven.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER

First interviews will be on Tuesday 30 November

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS
(TEL: 081 693 1181, FAX: 081 693 7842)

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON (University of London) RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

CENTRE OF MEDICAL LAW AND ETHICS

The Centre for Medical Law and Ethics is being funded by the EC to research the moral and legal issues surrounding the treatment and health care of patients in persistent vegetative state. Applications are invited for a Research Associate with a background in law, medicine, philosophy or a related discipline, to work on this project. The successful applicant should have demonstrable research ability. French or German language skills would be an advantage.

The appointment is for 1 year in the first instance, to commence January 1994. Salary will be in the range of £12,820 - £15,186 plus £2134 London allowance.

Further details and applications forms are available from the Administrator, Centre of Medical Law and Ethics, Kings College London, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS. Tel: 071 873 2382.

Closing date: 10th December 1993.
Equality of Employment Opportunity is College Policy

The Royal College of Surgeons of England Christmas Holiday Lectures for Young People

Monday 13 - Thursday 16 December 1993

A series of one hour lectures for school pupils, aged 12-18 years, will be held at The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Each lecture begins at 3.00pm and is followed at 4.00pm by tea. All lectures are free of charge, but admission is by ticket only.

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Professor J P Blandy, Professor of Surgery

Wednesday 15 December 1993
"So you want to be a surgeon?"
Mr A W F Lattin, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon

Thursday 16 December 1993
"Intensive therapy in the 1990s - the cost of a life"
Dr S M Wilkett, Consultant Anaesthetist

Enquiries and application for tickets should be directed with a SAE to: The Haven Department of Education, The Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN. Tel: 071-405 3474 ext. 4601/4603/4607/4610.

Closing date for applications: 1 December 1993.

COURSES

THE EDWARD JAMES FOUNDATION WEST DEAN COLLEGE

Chichester
APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL

The Trustees of the Edward James Foundation wish to appoint a successor to Mr. Peter Sarginson who will retire from the post on September 30th, 1994.

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The Trustees are looking for someone who has the ability to develop academic vision and maintain the progress of the Foundation. Applicants should have a distinguished record in the arts or art education and have the ability to stimulate good management practice. They can offer an attractive salary package and fringe benefits.

The Trustees would like to make this appointment so that the successful candidate would be available on August 1st 1994. Replies are required before end of November.

Further information from the Principal, West Dean College, West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0GZ. Tel: 0243 811901.

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Candidates wishing to obtain further information are invited to contact Professor Ian Kennedy, Head of the School of Law, on 071-873 2449. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from Miss Grace Alleyne, School of Law, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS (tel: 071-873 2273; fax: 071-873 2465). The closing date for receipt of applications is 22 November 1993. Please quote reference A1/FL/2/93 with your enquiry.

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مكتبة من الأصول

EDUCATION

Jeff Rooker was sacked as Labour's higher education spokesman and his green paper chapter on college and university funding went unpublished. Today he asks: why is the Opposition burying its head in the sand?

How long can Labour keep mum?

Opposition parties cannot stand still. The quest for power requires policy to be revised and rewritten in an effort to keep pace with the changing circumstances of voters. After almost a decade and half in the cold, rejected four times by electorate, Labour has no choice but to review its policies.

This can be a painful and difficult process. Casting off old policies is tantamount to an admission of failure, something politicians never find easy. Forging new ones is fraught with problems, as I found to my cost last month when I was sacked as Labour's higher education spokesman.

One of the greatest dangers facing Labour after such a long period outside office is that of becoming a professional Opposition. That is, a party that opposes the government, but never risks upsetting the vested interests. Even worse, the Opposition can narrow its gaze to that of taking power and grow obsessed with its fortunes in parliamentary battles. Soon it can become locked in a vicious circle, its chances of taking office growing ever more distant as it starts to miss the changes taking place in the wider world.

Take the world of further and higher education, from which the majority of current politicians have benefited. Some followed a very traditional route via university, others went straight from school into the world of work before they were able to taste full-time education as adults. Either way, for most of us it was a long time ago. All we have is our memories, occasionally jogged by constituency casework involving students.

In the past year I had the privilege of holding the higher education brief for the Opposition. It involved lots of listening and a steep learning curve. I visited more than 20 institutions of higher education in the first six months. I saw, first-hand, the hard realities of recent change. I tried to discuss them. But I was not believed.

It is hardly surprising, if, in the past four years, we had built 20 large universities to accommodate the 44 per cent increase in student numbers the new buildings would

have been there for all to see. Inevitably and unavoidably, people would have asked: "How are we paying for this?" Similarly, the question of access to these fine institutions would have been raised, ensuring a wider cross-section of the population benefited from the opportunities of higher education.

This did not happen. Instead, we crammed the extra numbers into existing institutions. We hid them away from view so only those on the inside knew what was happening. We even managed to maintain the same social class mix, as measured by fathers' occupation, so higher education remained the preserve of the middle classes.

What are the consequences of all this for the student? Staff/student ratios have declined by 30 per cent. Lecture halls overflow, sometimes into the corridors. Tutorials have become so crowded that their value as a teaching method is often compromised. Some libraries and study facilities are even forced to open 24 hours a day to avoid massive queues in the day. Of course, all this represents a substantial increase in productivity, but the price has been a decline in quality.

There are now more than 3.6 million students. The 600,000 full-time undergraduates whose tuition fees are paid for by the state — regarded by most politicians and media people as the only "real" students — actually constitute only a small minority.

How are the overwhelming majority outside the universities treated? In further education alone there are more than 2.5 million people. Most have to pay fees which can run to several hundred pounds. However, a huge part of further education is run on the back of the social security system — with the perverse result that unemployed students who work too hard, studying for more than 21 hours a week, are threatened with loss of benefit.

Another 100,000 people of all ages, most working full-time, are with the Open University. Yet they are required to pay fees up to £900 and are not entitled to any tax relief.

There are also about 400,000 part-time students in our universities and higher education colleges. They are not entitled to main-

'I saw, first-hand, the hard realities of recent change. I tried to discuss them. But I was not believed.'



Out in the cold: Jeff Rooker's plea for a debate on the grant system's inequalities fell on deaf ears

nance awards and cannot apply for student loans. They might, if they are lucky, have their fees paid by an employer or enter free if unemployed. Universities have to scramble around for funds to educate the part-timers, because they receive little from the taxpayer.

That leaves the full-time undergraduates. The annual cost of each undergraduate to the taxpayer is between £6,000 and £10,000 per annum, up to three times that for a

typical further education place. Oxford and Cambridge alone cost the taxpayer almost double because of their college system.

Some students today suffer abject poverty and misery. They live in a world far removed from the campuses of 20 years ago remembered by most politicians. Even though, full-time undergraduates still get their tuition fees paid, the grant has been frozen for three years while the cost of living has risen. The only

choice for most has been to take on debts, either under the government's student loan scheme or from the banks. Although three-quarters get a grant of some kind, most parents fail to meet their obligation to make it up to the full amount.

In short, there are gross inequalities in education. There are different rules, opportunities and funding for part-timers and full-timers, for those at university or in further education. These unfair-

nesses must be addressed. We must examine government spending on higher education.

The university elite enjoys vast state subsidy even though it is this minority that derives most benefit from the education system and has the greatest ability to pay. The majority who do not go to university do not challenge this unfair system because it still offers a ladder to a small proportion of working class children.

Yet if we are to compete, indeed survive, as a modern nation we need to improve education standards. We need to direct more resources where they are most effective for the majority. We have to be brave enough to say to all — including the university vice-chancellors — that the priority has to be nurseries and the 16-19 age group.

I said this and more in the unpublished chapter of Labour's education green paper. Containing not a single proposal, it was an attempt to search for open access opportunities; to make a statement dedicating us to maintaining and improving quality; to demand equity for all students. I gave a warning that it made uncomfortable reading. It asked questions that a serious political party cannot ignore — but, unfortunately, I wrote myself off the front bench.

The world of education, and it is a big world, has a right to expect politicians to show some awareness to changing realities. A responsible political party cannot hide its head in the sand.

There are important goals for higher education. Britain must protect quality, widen access, give people the chance to learn throughout their lifetime, and create a just system. All this requires more money. But, the problem is that little, if any, is likely to come from the public purse. Outside general taxation, the only sources of additional finance are industry and the students themselves once they have started earning good salaries.

We cannot afford to shirk these issues. Left to the Treasury, departments will be forced to close opportunities for the bright, but poor child will decline and inequalities increase. A market will emerge creating a super league of institutions, well-funded and attended by those students who can afford to pay "top-up" fees.

The elitists will have won a major political battle in a key area of social policy without ever being challenged to a political dogfight. They must be challenged.

Red sky at night, teacher's delight

MANY of our proverbs, epigrams and idiomatic expressions have been in use for centuries. Far from being mere clichés, they often derive from important literature as well as embodying the history and geography of these islands. How regrettable it is that most of these enriching, quirky and fascinating turns of phrase are unknown to most schoolchildren.

If you want a pound of flesh, you live in pandemonium, you ask for more, or you feel more equal than someone else, then, consciously or otherwise, you are using figurative ideas from Shakespeare, Milton, Dickens and Orwell.

Such ordinary expressions are not generally understood by an average teenager in 1993, who is unlikely to have read the books. Too often neither have his (or her) teachers and parents.

Of course, new expressions will evolve, but linguistic innovation should be an addition not an alternative.

Primary schools used formally to teach proverbs and their like. Today, most English teachers and those who advise them are firmly opposed to what they call "decontextualised" exercises. They believe that all the learning should arise from the child's own writing.

The National Curriculum for English focuses on "knowledge about language", quaintly known in the trade as KAL because the word "grammar" is professionally incorrect. Surely KAL could include learning the time-honoured expressions and proverbs which provide a cultural link with the long stable past, so valuable to the young in these turbulent times?

Then perhaps the 14-year-old pupil, who actually bent down, puzzled and confused, to tug at her hosiery when I advised her to pull her up socks will know what I'm talking about. Unfortunately, she typifies her culturally deprived generation.

SUSAN ELKIN

Power at the point of a school board

Should drawings of witches feature on classroom walls during the Halloween festival? Should children be taught to become "global citizens"? Should classes hold mock political elections?

According to the religious right in America the answer to all three questions is an uncompromising "no". Pictures of witches would encourage unsuspecting children to dabble in paganism. Pupils should learn about patriotism: talk of global duties merely undermines commitment to country. Mock elections usurp parental authority. In state legislatures and on education boards across America, objections to witches, mock elections and a host of other seemingly innocuous matters are being raised in deadly earnest.

Fundamentalist holy warriors are on the march again. Last Tuesday, at local school board elections across America, religious conservatives gained more seats and even more opportunities to put their "pro-family" teachings into effect and restore "traditional discipline and values" to the nation's classrooms.

The significant gains made by the fundamentalists over the last year have taken the Democrats, and some moderate Republicans, aback. They should not have done. Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition is the leading fundamentalist political organisation in America. After Mr Robertson lost his attempt to win the 1988 Republican presidential nomination, the religious right earmarked the parochial route to national power and specifically targeted schools. As Ralph Reed, the director of the Christian Coalition, said recently: "It's easier to be elected to the education board than to be President of the United States."

Since the November victories, the religious right has begun to monopolise many school agendas with challenges that are designed to advance into the wider political arena their crusade against gay rights, abortion, feminism and so-called cultural diversity. Dozens of school boards have been paralysed

In a calculated campaign, America's religious right is using education as its springboard

by rows. Teacher unions complain that the endless politicking is impeding their work.

Some of the clashes smack of the absurd. In Charleston, South Carolina, conservatives have objected to the use of a dragon-shaped hand puppet nicknamed Pumsy, used in self-esteem classes in elementary schools, because, they say, it is demonic. In the same city, the religious right has organised a fierce campaign to prevent the hiring of a new nurse in a school because they fear she could be used by teenagers to get abortion advice.

It would be a mistake, though, to

'Conservatives have objected to a dragon puppet named Pumsy'

dismiss such headline-grabbing protests as ridiculous. They are used to stir up debate and reinforce the religious conservatives' attacks on general targets. The row over Pumsy, for example, was engineered in an effort to halt self-esteem programmes which the religious right dislikes because they "weaken respect for parents".

According to Michael Hudson, of the liberal, anti-censorship body, People for the American Way, the tactic of the conservatives is to pick on a small target in the schools. "They create a controversy and then stir up a lot of energy among local churches, then run more candidates for local offices using that issue as a flagship controversy."

Teacher unions and liberals allege that the conservatives' aim is to force public schools to try to produce clones. "They are not interested in students learning how to discuss or how to think," said Tom Conry, president of a teachers' association in California. Religious right leaders claim that all they are doing is to ensure that liberals within education do not sabotage home-taught traditional moral and religious values.

Endless debate does seem to have smothered classroom innovation. Conservatives in Virginia, for example, have succeeded in blocking the introduction of so-called outcomes-based education (OBE), a teaching strategy that places greater emphasis on encouraging children to master skills rather than measuring and examining what they know.

In Georgia, the battle over OBE has been fierce, with the right claiming that its introduction represents "one of the most blatant shifts in the history of the US from the Judeo-Christian ethic to an atheistic, humanistic ethic". Liberals allege that behind many of the right's campaigns there is a longer-term goal in sight: to undermine public education and create a two-tier system by generating wider support for school-voucher programmes. Last Tuesday, voters in California rejected a Christian Coalition-inspired proposal that would have, if passed, entitled parents to state money to send their children to private or religious schools.

There is deep and widespread dissatisfaction with American school education. Teacher opposition to school choice proposals and other right-wing ideas all too frequently comes across as just high-handed "reactionary liberalism". The right is quick to seize the chance to paint teachers as the defenders of a worn-out status quo. Unless the professionals embrace parental concerns more, religious conservatives are likely to continue winning school board seats.

JAMIE DETTMER



Laburnum Road School in Hackney, where the education authority stands to lose 10 per cent of its funding next year

Hard lesson for the inner cities

Sir Ron Dearing, the government's chief education adviser, put it very crisply: in a business, if the customer doesn't like the product, you change the product. It follows that if young people in deprived urban areas are bored or uninspired by school and vote with their feet, the educational product they are being offered may need to be changed too.

The recent report by the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted), "Access and Achievement in Urban Education", provides the best description yet of the state of education in deprived urban areas. It paints a disturbing picture of standards at one in five state schools. Bluntly, it says too many schools and teachers are not good enough. The forthcoming report by the independent National Commission on Education, judging by findings disclosed in *The Times* last week, is likely to bang home this message even harder.

The Ofsted inspectors say lessons are insufficiently challenging. Teachers lack detailed knowledge of the range of ability in their classes. They do not adjust their teaching to take account of low levels of literacy. Pupils do not receive enough feedback on their work. Headteachers often become so absorbed with discipline matters that they do not have time to focus on achievement. Overall, schools fail to tap the potential that pupils have for success.

Both bad teaching and lack of resources are blamed for the poor record of urban schools. So where does the answer lie?

Worse still, the Ofsted report indicates that government policy is not solving these severe problems. The government's emphasis on opting out will not do the trick, the report says, because "most schools in these disadvantaged areas do not have within themselves the capacity for self-renewal". Other reforms, far from helping these schools, are drowning them.

Compounding all this is both a lack of resources and a lack of consistency in their allocation. Nobody could seriously believe that simply pouring money in would solve the problems identified by the inspectors but, as the report points out, "resources need to be allocated on a more consistent and long-term basis and bear a closer relationship to educational need".

Improving schools needs concerted, consistent action over a series of years. The periodic budget crises in many urban areas repeatedly undermine the ability of schools and local authorities to raise standards. Meanwhile, through altering the ground rules at national level, the government is on the brink of implementing a spectacular piece of political cynicism by diverting huge sums of money away from

education in urban areas into shire counties. Hackney, in London, for example could lose 10 per cent of its budget next year.

It is as if the government wants to march its lack of strategy with a lack of funding. If it proceeds on the present basis the result will be the betrayal of another generation.

It need not be like that. The process of improving schools in disadvantaged urban areas must begin with the teachers. Ofsted has identified their difficulties with precision. These will not be overcome by describing them as "dull", to use John Patten's word. There must be a plan to attract and keep good teachers in deprived urban areas. There are plenty there already but more are needed.

Those who are there run the risk of being ground down by the pressures of the social circumstances of the school and constant educational change. A ground-down teacher can easily lose the sense of idealism, the belief in the potential of every child, that is at the heart of successful teaching. One inner-London headteacher told me: "I need to keep going back to the shores where I used to work to remember what is possible."

Teachers in urban areas need opportunities to visit schools in other circumstances, in mainland Europe as well as in this country. They should be offered professional development vouchers, which they could spend as they choose on improving their skills. There needs to be greater investment in training teachers in assessing pupils and in meeting their varying needs. This can be linked to the new, improved national curriculum that we hope will be in place next year.

Teachers deserve recognition too. In the desperately demanding circumstances of Britain's deprived urban areas there are teachers performing miracles every day. In America I saw a billboard that read: "Greenfield thanks its teachers." Who will be the first to sponsor a similar billboard here?

At the moment the government, rightly, has tough plans for dealing with consistently failing schools — sending in "hit squads" led by retired headteachers to turn them around — but that will not bring about improvement for the majority. Ofsted has done an important job in analysing the problem. It is time the government and the teaching profession took joint responsibility for solving it.

MICHAEL BARBER

● The author, former education officer for the National Union of Teachers, is Professor of Education at Keele University.

Logistics, the movement, storage and distribution of goods, has come into its own. A special report by Rodney Hobson

A business in its own right

A new report shows that some firms are not taking full advantage of the benefits of logistics

Andersen Consulting spoke to 261 high-level executives across a cross-section of British industry and commerce. These were not small fish: the companies boasted a combined annual turnover of £52 billion.

While the survey found that logistics had emerged as a business function in its own right — 57 per cent of organisations claimed that they had a formal logistics function — there was less evidence of companies putting words into action. Only 28 per cent had a defined logistics strategy. Another 37 per cent were thinking about it. There is still a long way to go.

Logistics, in this sense, involves managing the movement, storage and distribution of goods from the producers to distributors and customers.

Half the companies surveyed could not even measure accurately the total cost of their logistics activities. Confusion reigned over what logistics is and definitions varied from company to company and industry to industry.

The report said: "Only half the companies surveyed know their current total logistics costs. This is one of the most disturbing findings. Unless a company can quantify its cost base and has formal performance measures in place, it has little hope of measuring the effect of logistics changes on service and cost. Rather than championing logistics, many boardrooms are still operating in a logistics Stone Age."

Given the hype that has surrounded logistics recently, Andersen expected to find that the logistics side supplied a board representative, particularly among



Tom Barry, of Andersen Consulting, says: "Logistics management is increasingly becoming a critical element in companies' cost-reduction programmes"

the larger companies. These, rather than smaller outfits, tended to have a formal logistics function and an integrated supply chain.

However, the report says: "This is not the case. The survey results suggest that the average boardroom is a logistics backwater, with an astonishing dearth of representation. It is difficult, if not impossible, to revolutionise a company's logistics strategy without a champion on at board level."

"Searching questions need to be asked to get to the bottom of this problem. In particular, whether the power of logistics is really understood in the average boardroom. If not, why not?"

The report found that logistics activities continued to be compartmentalised and isolated. Analytical tools were not available to operational management.

Yet those companies that did make the effort to manage the logis-

tics of their business, demonstrated that there were worthwhile savings to be made. Some claimed that they had reduced their supply chain costs by as much as a quarter.

The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply says further research has confirmed the Andersen findings. It says that many

management or purchasing and supply chains and many did not believe that worthwhile savings could be made in this field.

Least third-party suppliers of logistic services look on smugly, the Andersen survey has chastening words for this fast-growing sector. It found that while the prime

changers of third-party services. However, there is little doubt that, done properly, contracting out can achieve worthwhile improvements in cost, service and management

Suspicion over whether third parties can effect real improvements is shown by the fact that specialists are far more likely to run transport operations than warehousing. Andersen says: "Two factors are believed to be at work here: firstly, fear of losing control and secondly, the greater risk to customer service. Companies may see contracting out transport as more easily reversible than warehousing."

Andersen found that retailers, the traditional leaders in the supply chain, are at the forefront of the push to implement comprehensive logistics strategies.

Tom Barry, logistics partner at Andersen, says: "In the search for a

competitive advantage, the winners will be those companies that continue to evolve their logistics strategy in a planned, sustained and broad-ranging campaign. As European trade issues evolve, it becomes increasingly clear that logistics progress has not gone far enough."

He says there is a growing awareness that logistics is not just about moving products, but about moving data. "If a company is to cut costs and improve service to gain a competitive advantage, then vital information such as inventory and demand levels must pass rapidly and accurately," Mr Barry says.

"Logistics management is increasingly becoming a critical element in companies' cost-reduction programmes. However, the hype has clearly preceded the reality, resulting in frustration and apprehension over the true benefits."

Those companies that manage the logistics of their business show that there are savings to be made

directors do not know what proportion of total costs is spent on buying in goods and services or on storage and distribution.

The institute found a lack of appreciation of the benefits of good

reason for using third-party operators was to cut costs, about two-thirds of organisations said that this had not been achieved.

The report said: "Clearly there must be many disappointed pur-

Eliminate unnecessary cost and structure

Logistics is no more than systems, Dr Jim Maxmin, chief executive of Laura Ashley, told a gathering of logistics managers on board the Canberra, the P&O cruise ship.

Logistics '93, the third annual event organised by Richmond Events in association with Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants, gave managers four days to concentrate on what makes a good logistics manager in the 1990s.

Dr Maxmin has formed a logis-

tics alliance with FedEx as part of the changes he has introduced since taking over the running of Laura Ashley two years ago. "I don't believe in the quick fix," he said. "The alliance was never about trucks and sheds. Logistics gives the organisation an opportunity to achieve competitive advantage by focusing on core competency."

Professor Martin Christopher, of the Cranfield School of Management, said that as organisations

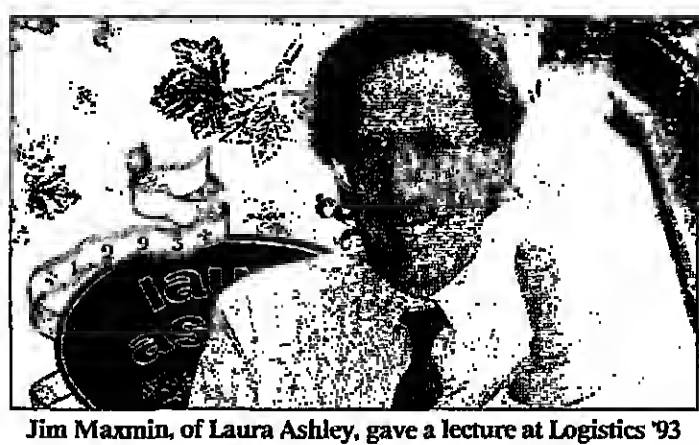
become market-driven, logistics came into its own. Traditionally, logistics had been inhibited by inward-looking management focused on economies of scale and budgets, he said.

"Logistics directors must realise that they are in a prime position to effect change as the contribution that logistics can make to sustained competitive advantage becomes widely accepted," he said.

Dr Fred Hewitt, vice-president of logistics and asset management

at Xerox Corp in America, told the session on benchmarking: "Perhaps some company somewhere has become world-class by accident. Usually, however, companies become world-class by finding out what it means and then doing what is required of them to consciously attain that status. This is, in essence, what benchmarking is about."

Xerox had extended benchmarking to logistics "with dramatic effect on the bottom line."



Jim Maxmin, of Laura Ashley, gave a lecture at Logistics '93

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Lean, mean and keen

Since winning a national award for his industrial storage systems company 18 months ago, Andrew Donaldson has gone from strength to strength. He was just a one-man band when, as northwest area finalist, he won the Livewire Award for the most promising new business in Britain.

Mr Donaldson had been trading for only a year as an independent supplier of storage equipment, ranging from pallet racking to plastic bags, when he won the award, sponsored annually by Shell. He put his total of £4,000 prize money into computer-aided design, a move that he describes as "the best investment I ever made".

He has had to move twice in order to expand and now has premises in an enterprise centre in Crewe, Cheshire. His employees' numbers have grown to four full-time members and two to six contractors working on site. Turnover this year is likely to reach £500,000.

"At first I operated mainly in south Cheshire, but I now have a number of key clients up and down the country from Carlisle to Brighton," he says.

Prize money is
put to good use

"We have done jobs in Somerset and are expanding into north Wales."

Important clients include Hotpoint, Rentokil, Clywd County Council and RHM Foods. London Underground called in the company to help with work on the Central Line. The service includes a free analysis and design survey so that warehouses, factories, electrical wholesalers and plant and tool hire companies



Andrew Donaldson: award

can improve their storage and handling systems and reduce their overheads by using space more effectively.

"A lot of storage companies do not offer such a wide range of products," Mr Donaldson says. "Some do pallets, some shelving, but it is difficult to get the full range from a one-stop shop like us. When we do one job it often leads to more work within the same group."

He finds that his computer system produces designs that are easily understood by people who are not used to reading plans. He says: "It is like the fax machine. After you have had one for three months you wonder how you ever managed without one." He says storage systems have changed dramatically over the past three to five years.

"Storage used to be at the bottom of the list for spending money on. Now more and more companies realise that storage and handling of goods can be the difference between making a profit or loss in a particular year. We justify the expenditure by saying that a system may cost £10,000, but that money can be saved in 18 months and after that it is helping profits."

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Regulations and costs are forcing food retailers to streamline distribution, Rodney Hobson finds

Supply on the menu

The food sector is one of the oldest and best established business areas in Britain, but it has undergone profound changes over the past three years, changes that have presented opportunities and challenges for logistics managers.

The final stages of the Food Act 1990 came into force in April this year, setting the most rigorous standards yet for the manufacture, handling and distribution of food.

Robert Bonwell, director of business space at property consultants Erdman Lewis, says: "The act has important implications for the food distribution industry in terms of the property it occupies. Smaller, older and more basic buildings are often unsuited to the expanding range of goods produced. The new legislation will force changes to the type of premises, their location and the nature of the industry."

All food storage and distribution premises, including warehouses and depots, now have to be registered with the local authority. Environmental health officers will have the power to close any operation deemed unfit for food.

Mr Bonwell says that the measures will increase the dominance of third-party contract distribution specialists. It will also hasten the demise of small, unsophisticated warehouse sheds as well as focus attention on whether to main-

tain investment in plant and machinery in existing premises or move to better buildings in better locations.

"Some distribution companies already operate within stringent guidelines, which have evolved in negotiations with their most demanding customers, particularly the major supermarkets," says Mr Bonwell. "But the regulations will increase the difficulties of small manufacturers and those with in-house distribution, who may find their resources being stretched even to keep up with the new requirements let alone cope with the costs of upgrading premises and vehicles."

John Tilley is director of business development at Wincanton, which manages warehouse and distribution services for supermarket chains such as Tesco and Asda. He agrees that retailers will increasingly need the help of logistics experts in holding down costs while meeting the demands of the modern world.

"As a leading force in specialist distribution, Wincanton recognises that the way forward is to work in partnership with customers to produce effective supply chain management," he says.

"Having streamlined many sides of their business during the recession, retailers looking for further ways to increase profitability are focusing on the supply chain. The aim is to



Mike Burbage: fast and flexible supply



Driving costs down and reducing stockholding: the Tesco distribution centre at Doncaster operated by Wincanton

drive costs down and to reduce stockholding. A key element in achieving this objective is through the setting and monitoring of stringent performance levels with customers," says Mr Tilley.

The warehouse and distribution centre that Wincanton manages for Tesco at Doncaster indicates the scale of the operation. The centre covers 30 acres and is ten times larger than the average Tesco store. The 500 staff handle food at temperatures ranging from -25 degrees centigrade to +3 degrees as well as stocks that are kept at normal ambient temperatures.

Last month, Wincanton opened a new purpose-built northern distribution centre for Asda at Washington, Tyne and Wear. The site for the 180,000 sq ft warehouse was

selected only at Easter this year but construction, fitting out and staffing were completed to a tight deadline to meet the peak sales period in the run-up to Christmas.

Mike Burbage, managing director of Wincanton Distribution (Retail), says: "The operation will enable costs to be driven out of Asda's supply chain by offering a flexible, quick response to seasonal demands from individual stores. The average weekly throughput at Washington is set to run at 430,000 cases but it will reach 650,000 cases a week at peak season."

The Washington centre will handle Asda ranges that have to be kept within specific temperatures — such as health and beauty products, beers and groceries — and will serve 108 stores across northern

England and Scotland. It will also feed regional distribution centres at Falkirk and Wakefield, co-ordinating with Asda's southern distribution centre at Luttermouth, in

Leicestershire. Nearly 300 employees — including warehouse operators, drivers, managers and clerical staff — will be needed plus a fleet of more than 35 vehicles.

BT has finger on the pulse

Rodney Hobson tracks the fast-moving progress of satellite communications



An Allied-Pickfords driver uses his C-Sat monitor

Today's logistics and distribution industry spends more than £1 billion on information technology and telecommunications each year. With such investment, these services are regarded as indispensable business tools, synonymous with convenience, productivity, efficiency and competitive edge.

The integrated supply chain, recognised in retail and distribution sectors as a central pillar for business development in the 1990s, is reliant on the fast, electronic flow of data and voice links between organisations.

Accuracy of information is vital for efficient logistics, providing managers with constantly updated status on the consignments.

BT is working with several leading companies, including the NFC Group, Allied-Pickfords, P&O, Royal Mail, TNT, Swift Transport Services and Securicor, to develop information technology and telecommunications for the issues faced by the logistics industry and to provide tailored services to match individual operators' needs.

Allied-Pickfords, NFC's international removals operation, has been testing the effectiveness of the satellite C-Sat vehicle tracking system,

'Accurate information is vital for efficient logistics'

which offers customers up-to-the-minute information about delivery.

With no single terrestrial communications system able to cover all of Europe, Allied-Pickfords had difficulty in tracking its continental vehicles once they left Britain and relied on drivers calling in from payphones to pick up messages or report problems.

Satellite-delivered communications now keep Allied-Pickfords in permanent, two-way contact with its vehicles, wherever they are in Europe, allowing schedules to be fine-tuned.

Allied-Pickfords, based in

Enfield, can alert customers on the Continent to problems in advance. Breakdown services can be called out if a driver runs into mechanical trouble, allowing the driver to stay in the cab instead of needing foreign currency change and a telephone box.

The operator can also direct drivers to pick up customers' goods that are often organised at short notice, so improving both the fleet utilisation and its efficiency.

Effective use of telecommunications does not necessarily mean expensive investment in new systems. For Lynx, the express delivery

company, one element of the communications programme was to issue drivers with BT Chargecards, for use when reporting into base. The cards allow drivers to use any telephone and charge the call back to the depot, which eliminates the need to use telephones at customer premises or find change for pay telephones.

BT Chargecards have also been used by Pickfords drivers operating in Europe. Dialling the card number automatically puts callers through to English-speaking operators, helping to remove the confusion of calling the United Kingdom from abroad.

As part of moves towards improving information flow, TNT is investing £6 million in UniVerse — Uniform Versatile System for Europe — a project to move all the company's existing operational, administrative, sales and financial computer systems to a higher level of technology.

The project began in March and will be completed by next autumn. By taking advantage of modern computer and communications technology, TNT will have the flexibility to respond quickly to changes in the market and increased customer demand. The systems being implemented have been designed to be more streamlined and, where possible, to replace outdated paper systems.

The United Kingdom system, which will eventually be implemented in Germany and Spain, is based on a series of Hewlett-Packard mini-computers in each TNT depot. These are connected to the company's headquarters in Atherstone, Warwickshire.

Tunnel holds terminal up

A 20-acre container site is ready to transfer goods from rail to road

While the debate about the best method of running trains from the Channel tunnel to London rumbles on, in other parts of Britain work has already started on ways of transferring goods from the roads to rail for shipment across Europe.

The Euroterminal at Trafford Park in southwest Manchester is ready before the tunnel. Completed in July, a year after construction began, it was opened by Sir Bob Reid, the British Rail chairman, on October 5. Had Eurotunnel opened as planned, the timing would have been spot-on.

The 20-acre terminal, which cost £11 million, can handle 100,000 containers a year, switching them from road to rail in less than three minutes per container. The typical transit times for freight leaving Trafford Park will be 23 hours to Strasbourg, 29 to Lyons and 33 to Milan.

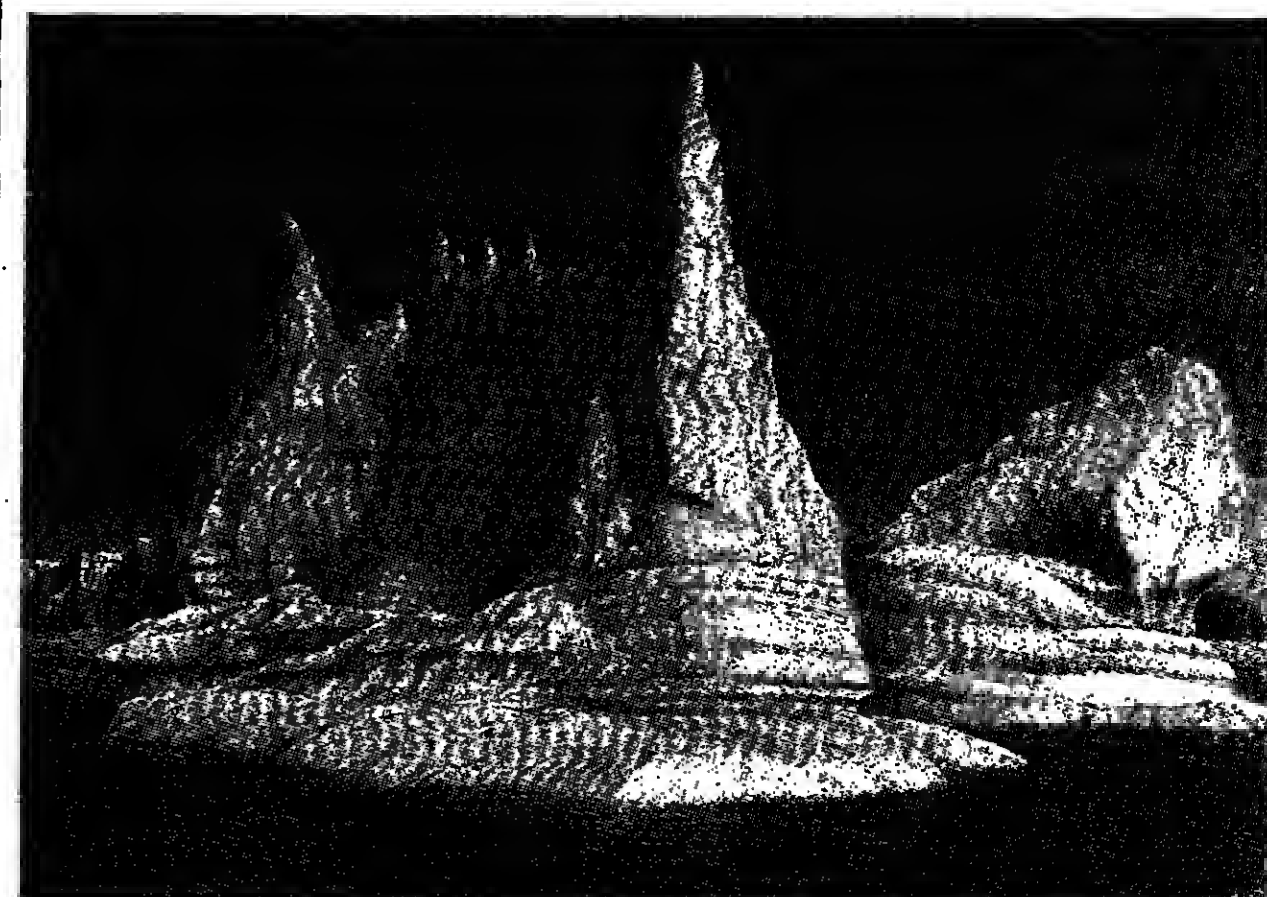
To allow easy access to the terminal, a four-lane carriageway costing £2.3 million connects the terminal to the motorway network. Although only 40 people will work on the site, it is estimated that 12,000 jobs will be created indirectly in the region over the next 20 years.

A scheme for a 140-acre freight terminal linked to the Channel tunnel has been agreed by Daventry district council in Northamptonshire for inclusion in its local plan. A manufacturing and distribution park is planned on an adjoining site to the sidings. The electrified rail freight line from London to the North West runs alongside and junction 18 of the M1 is a quarter of a mile away.

The terminal will serve the east and west Midlands catchment areas but it will be only two hours drive from Manchester and Leeds. The M6 and the A14 link road to the A1 are close by.

Warehousing and industrial development will occupy 2.3 million sq ft and 2,850 jobs will be provided on the site plus a further 850 in surrounding areas.

The opening of the £140-million terminal is targeted for 1995. Mike Roper, a director of Abbot, the Beaconsfield development company promoting the scheme, says: "This project has the potential to handle vast quantities of freight and to make a major contribution to easing congestion on the clogged trunk routes between the Midlands, London and the Channel ports."



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It was appropriately enough, the Vikings — those intrepid explorers of the Arctic, who gave us our name for these vast and forbidding mountains — icebergs.

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ABF expects a sweet taste to profits

A HEALTHY rise in investment income and a strong performance from British Sugar should help sweeten full-year profits at Associated British Foods, the group headed by Garry Weston.

Tim Porter, of Smith New Court, expects final pre-tax profits, due today, to advance to £138 million, including a £16 million exceptional boost resulting from a revaluation of the group's 18 per cent interest in Betsford. Smith has pencilled in clean profits of £302 million (£297 million). Forecasts range from £302 million to £320 million.

Profits will be boosted by one-off gains and healthy investment income on a cash pile estimated at about £400 million. Booming stock and gilt markets worldwide should see the net gain from investment income grow to £40 million (£26 million).

The devaluation of sterling should help British Sugar's trading profits advance 20 per cent to £165 million, accounting for nearly two-thirds of the group's total. Analysts want to hear if ABF is feeling the squeeze as retailers try to pass on some of the price war pain.

REPORTING THIS WEEK

TODAY

Interim: British Empire Securities and General Trust, Elen Corp, Pwong, Sharelink Investment Services, Finalist: Associated British Foods, Automatic Holdings, Warde Stores. Economic statistics: Credit business (September), producer price index numbers (October).

TOMORROW

Anglian Water kicks off the water companies interim reporting season. Peter Hyde, at Kleinwort Benson, has pencilled in pre-tax profits of £98.5 million (£100.2 million) and a dividend of 7.3p (6.8p).

Warburg should hit £126.5 million (£51.2 million), says NatWest Securities, reflecting buoyant stock markets. Interim: Anglian Water, Great Portland Estates, Harlepool Water, Kleinwort High Income Trust, Mercury Asset Management, NMC Group, Finalist: James Dickie, Economic statistics: CBI survey of distributive trades (October).

WEDNESDAY

Rapid market share loss will

be reflected in a dip in profits at National Power. UBS has pencilled in interim pre-tax profits of £195 million (£201 million). Forecasts range from £105 million to £195 million, depending on provisions and accounting methods. A dividend of 4.1p (3.3p) is predicted.

Acquisitions are expected to help interim pre-tax profits at Unigate climb to £46 million (£42 million), according to Smith New Court. Interim: ACT Group, Amersham, Chamberlain & Hill, Giam Group, Christie Group, Electromotors, European Colour, Henderson Administration, Ingham, Madoc Group, National Power, Personal Assets Trust, Finalist: J Bibby & Sons, Hambros, Novo Nordisk (33), Scottish Value Trust. Economic statistics: Index of production for Scotland (Q3), quarterly analysis of bank advances (Q3), balance of visible trade (August).

THURSDAY

Heavy cost-cutting should help Shell Transport & Trading report third-quarter historic net income of £700 million (£756 million) once gains and losses on oil stock are

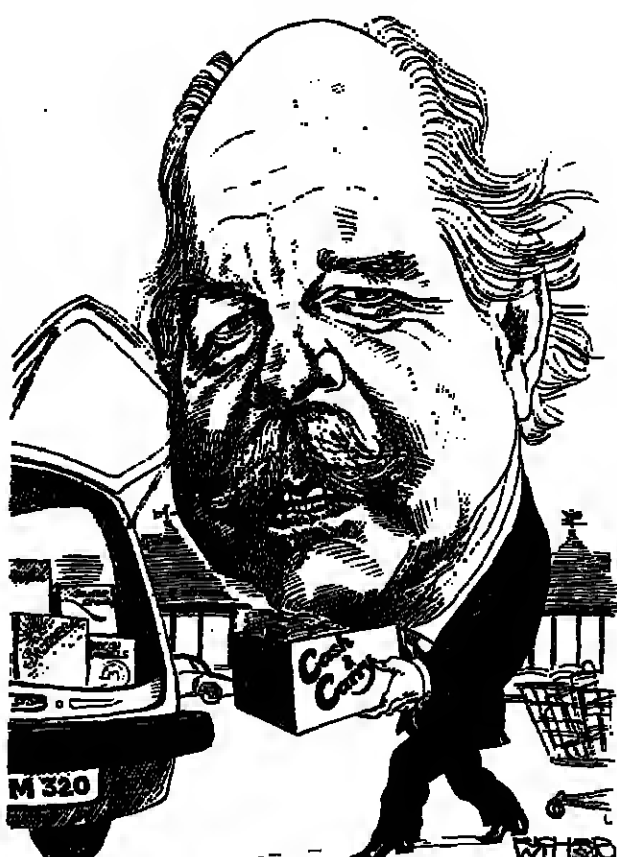
included, says NatWest Securities. The strong dollar and a good performance from its refining operations should have offset the impact of lower oil prices.

Interim: Aspley Westward, Business Post, Channel Holdings, Drayton English & International, Oxford Instruments, Penna, Pilot Investment Trust, Staveley Industries, VSEL, John Widdington, Warner Howard Group, Wilshire, Finalist: Burton Group, Jupiter European Investment Trust, Molyneux Estates, Royal Dutch (33), Royal Insurance Holdings (33), Shell Transport & Trading (33). Economic statistics: New earnings survey, Part D: analyses by occupation, capital issues and redemptions (October).

FRIDAY

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and household products giant, is forecast to turn in third quarter pre-tax profits of £615 million (£584 million) giving £1.6 billion (£1.5 billion) for the nine months. Interim: Drayton Korea Trust, Jussieu, Kleinwort Emerging Markets, Stetley, Somic, Unilever (33), Finalist: Anglo-Dutch, Economic statistics: Useful steel production (October), index of output of the production industries (September), overseas investments of UK consultancy firms (1992).

PHILIP PANGALOS



Garry Weston, of ABF, could feel the price war pinch

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.4797 (-0.0085)
German mark 2.5133 (+0.0183)
Exchange index 80.8 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2331.9 (-65.9)
FT-SE 100 3085.8 (-85.4)
New York Dow Jones 3643.43 (-37.16)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 18590.46 (-112.51)

Leyland in line to build new lorry

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT



Cor Baan aims to fill the gap in DAF's range

LEYLAND Trucks is in discussion with DAF Trucks of Holland about development of a new lorry, to be built in Britain.

The project would provide extra work for the Leyland plant in Lancashire and dispel doubts about the ability of Leyland Trucks, bought out of receivership by its management in June, to fund design of new products.

Development and marketing of a new vehicle, carrying the DAF badge, would also reassure customers that the federation of separately owned companies rescued from the collapse of the Anglo-Dutch lorry maker DAF in February can work in the longer term.

Leyland Trucks is to announce today that it is to increase production by 30 per cent to 33 trucks a day, because of increased demand for its 45 series 7.5 tonne model.

Outside Europe it has truck orders worth £5 million. Cor Baan, chairman of DAF, revealed the project at a London conference organised by DRI, the truck industry analyst. He said DAF now had a modern and coherent model range, except for a gap between the lightweight 45 Series, built under contract at Preston, and the heavier vehicles, beginning with the 65 series, built in Holland.

"We are working to close that gap," he said. "We will do it in very close co-operation with Leyland Trucks." A Leyland spokesman confirmed that if discussions prove fruitful the new truck, to be called the 55 Series, will be designed and built in Britain. The vehicle is likely to be a two-axle rigid lorry with a payload of 12 to 14 tonnes.

It will replace models from the Leyland range which pre-date the company's ill-fated merger with

the DAF forerunner company which are still popular among British buyers. But the development would also provide the Preston plant with its first opportunity to export medium weight trucks to other DAF markets in Europe.

Both the Leyland plant and Leyland DAF Vans, the Birmingham successor to the old Anglo-Dutch van company, are trading profitably.

Allan Avey, the chief executive of the van company, said his workforce had been increased by 40 to 1,000 and the company had achieved £50 million of sales since managers completed their buyout in April.

The company was on course to achieve turnover of £80 million by the year end, and exports had resumed with a shipment of vehicles to Spain last week.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40
HIERODULAE
(a) A slave (of either sex) dwelling in a temple, and dedicated to the service of a god, especially applied to the public courtesans or votaries of Aphrodite at Corinth, from the Greek *hieron* a temple + *doulos* a slave. An ivory Aphrodite is celebrated by her hierodulae in myrtle bowers.
INFORTIATE
(b) The middle portion of the Pandects of Justinian, extending from Book xiv, title 3, to the end of Book xxviii, adaptation from the past participle *infortis*, used substantively, of the medieval Latin *infortis* to strengthen, ie the stuffing. That glossator [Odofredus] informs us that they had not the *infortiate* which was at Rome.
LEPID
(c) Pleasant, jocose, facetious, amusing. Sometimes charming, elegant. From the Latin *lepidus*, an adjective favoured by the poet Horace. Sydney Smith, 1807: "As for the joyous and lepid consul, he jokes upon neutral flags and frauds."
MURCIOUS
(d) One who cuts off a thumb to escape military service in an age when you needed a thumb to wield a sword or javelin, from the late Latin *murcus*. "When Surgeons do not handle whitows as they should, they render their Patients morcous."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
Black pursues his queenside initiative with 1... Rxb4! and if 2 Qxb4 B+ picking up the white queen.

Global factors squeeze inflation

GILT-EDGED

THE lack of inflation in devaluing nations in Europe in the past year, especially the UK, has confounded expectations. While producer prices have stayed subdued in devaluing nations, they have fallen in revaluing ones — in aggregate, deflation. Part of the explanation is in domestic factors depressing European activity, but deflationary devaluations can be fully appreciated only in a global context.

Global trade is opening to vast low-cost sources of supply in China and elsewhere, giving devaluing nations scope to control and even reduce costs, so putting deflationary pressure on revaluing ones.

Normally, a devaluation means worse terms of trade and lower living standards. This time, UK importers, unable to raise prices amid weak

demand, have switched to new lower-cost sources. Their reaction to sterling's ERM exit was to abandon Europe for suppliers elsewhere, import volumes from the EC falling by a tenth and non-EC import volumes rising a tenth. This favours cheap suppliers in "new regions" such as China and Eastern Europe. Their share of non-EC imports is up by almost five percentage points, past 30 per cent, in three years. "New regions" are perhaps the most significant factor in the OECD recession as firms undertake restructuring to respond to the competition. The result has been higher unemployment and faster productivity growth in OECD nations, with gains from lower costs

being largely passed to consumers via lower prices for OECD-produced goods. Perhaps counter-intuitively, sterling's depreciation may have increased the new regions' impact by pushing importers to find lowest-cost suppliers. This pressure has been felt by other EC nations too, showing that their fears of "competitive devaluations" destabilising trade were not groundless. However, the effects have come not only via rises in devaluing nations' export market shares, up only modestly; at least as important, cheaper imports from China and elsewhere have made French and German exporters accept lower prices. French export prices to the EC

are down more than 5 per cent since sterling's ERM exit. Devaluations have not been purely beggar-thy-neighbour. Some devaluing nations were in deep recession, risking spiralling "deflation-deflation". Devaluation, allowing lower interest rates and (modest) pricing power, permitted some recovery. For Europe, this *reflationary* effect probably outweighed, at least at first, the depressive impact on revaluing nations. The processes brought a very limited rise in UK inflation. In 1994, world deflation will continue to affect the UK, making unlikely a rise in core inflation. With producer input prices falling in the past three months, inflation surprises are likely to be favourable.

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Japanese business thinks again on UK investment

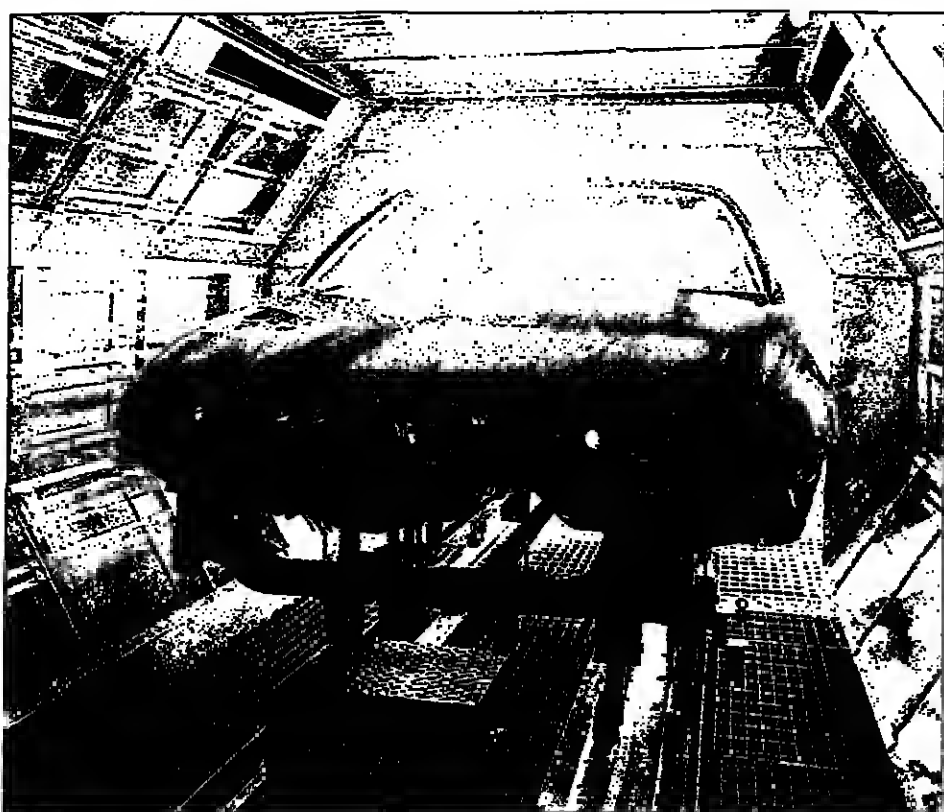
The high yen, weak home sales and UK failure on European integration point to a change of strategy, says Joanna Pitman

This was supposed to be the year when Japan helped to drive Britain out of its long recession. New Japanese direct investments in job-creating car and electronics plants, in R&D facilities and technology centres, are still eagerly being sought by streams of UK ministers on hurried visits to Tokyo. Few have materialised, and it has become clear that Japanese industry no longer has the ability, or the inclination, to repair the holes that recession has ripped in Britain's industrial fabric.

Nor are Japan's existing large investments in transport factories retaining their earlier distinction as creators of one of the few sectors of "British" industry on which the government could rely for rising output. In the 1980s, they turned trade deficit into surplus in products such as televisions and microwaves, and they are starting to do the same in cars.

But new Japanese direct investment in Europe as a whole, and in Britain in particular, has been dropping ever since 1990. According to a survey by the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), more than 100 Japanese firms set up operations in Europe every year between 1988 and 1990, but this fell to 56 in 1991 and 27 in 1992. More than 20 Japanese manufacturers pulled out of Europe last year.

The prospects of a renewal of significant amounts of Japanese investment into Britain are ebbing fast. There are three reasons Japanese businessmen now only pretend to listen and agree when Tim Sainsbury, minister for industry at DTI, and William Waldegrave, the science min-



Feeling the heat: Japanese investment into Britain is showing signs of drying up

ister, visit Tokyo, as they did this summer, to lecture investors on why they should put their precious funds in Britain.

The first reason is the Japanese domestic economy. This month, leading Japanese industrialists have begun to acknowledge publicly that the domestic economy is in far worse condition than believed and that a return to sustainable growth — which the government still contends is just six months away — may not come for some years.

Japanese industry has been damaged by the effects of recession in its global markets. But what is perhaps more worrying to top businessmen is that their own companies clearly need big restructuring to adjust to a new era of slower growth and a strong yen. Fresh evidence of the depth of Japan's recession surfaces daily. Last week, Nippon Steel Corporation, the world's largest steel company, said it

would cut its workforce by a fifth over three years to compensate for a 71 per cent drop in half-year profits. Nissan Motor, Japan's second-largest car maker, and a host of leading electronics firms said that they had sunk deeper into the red in the first half of the financial year because of the high yen and weak sales at home and abroad.

Last month, citing weak domestic and continental European sales, Nissan UK announced a 9 per cent output reduction at its Sunderland car plant from 270,000 units a year to 246,000. As of this week, it has cut out the night shift to save employment costs. Komatsu UK, the European subsidiary of the construction plant builder, pared 10 per cent of its UK workforce last year after demand and production levels dropped.

The UK subsidiary of Matsushita, one of the world's leading consumer electronics

producers, has also cut 10 per cent from the workforce of its Cardiff plant and moved to a four-day week. New investment in Britain is, therefore, a distinctly unpopular subject for Japanese businesses.

The second reason for the cool reception given to British ministers soliciting new investments is that Japan's leading manufacturers have completed their main investments, which were begun in the mid-1980s in preparation for European integration.

In the 1980s, Japanese firms invested the lion's share of their European direct investment budgets in Britain, funneling more than £16 billion into 200 or more bases and employing about 50,000 locals. That, it would appear, is enough. Since 1990, Britain's share has diminished to less than a third of the total, while Germany's catch has quadrupled, mainly in the sector of high-tech projects. A

director-general of Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), said. "Britain's economy is certainly weak, and all Japanese firms with facilities there are reviewing the merits and demerits of location in the UK."

"But they are also greatly concerned about Britain's position in terms of its level of political integration into Europe. Most firms chose Britain, among other reasons, on the assumption that it would be at the centre of the European Community. The EMS upset and Britain's apparent desire to stand apart on some political as well as economic issues, are making us wonder about the wisdom of those decisions."

Britain still retains most of the advantages that attracted the Eurocentric Japanese — low corporate tax rates, other fiscal and rental incentives, the English language, effectively cowed unions and relatively low labour costs.

However, investment-hungry rivals in continental Europe are now competing successfully for the few crumbs available. Britain's rates of return on investment do not compare well with those of its neighbours, according to a 1992 OECD economic outlook that shows British investments offered returns in 1991 of 2.2 per cent compared with 17.4 per cent in The Netherlands and 14.2 per cent in France and Germany.

According to a finance ministry official: "Germany is generally seen as the power centre in Europe in the long term. Potential investors are simply worried about Britain's long-term industrial future."

Given the choice, however, most Japanese corporate investors would probably choose an Asian location. It is Asia's manifest, comparative advantages that provide the third reason businessmen are not keen on new UK investment. Matsushita said: "It is the only bright spot at the moment."

A survey by MITI shows that the average return on sales for a Japanese manufacturing project in Asia is 5 per cent, compared with 3.2 per cent in Europe and minus 0.9 per cent in the US. Total Japanese overseas direct investment fell 27 per cent in the last fiscal year and a further 12 per cent in the first half of this year, but investment in China is expected to double and in both Indonesia and Vietnam it has risen. Japanese exports to Europe from subsidiaries in Thailand and other developing countries have the added advantage of receiving special treatment through Gatt rules.

It seems Britain is going to have to get used to the idea that those streams of helpful yen-bearing and job-creating Japanese businessmen have well and truly dried up.

And to the lady who rang to ask if there is a hurricane coming...



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

The last people to ask what will happen on the world's stock and bond markets over the coming weeks are City experts. Business pressures on securities firms and fund managers have grown so immediate that they cannot afford to contemplate a sharp fall in prices, still less the start of a prolonged downturn, or bear market. If fund managers envisaged a sustained fall in values — as opposed to a change in the relative attractions of different markets or of shares and fixed interest stocks — they would be telling the public not to give them any money and to take away from them even that which they have. If securities firms convinced investors that shares were overvalued, they would upset big clients and create losses for their market-makers.

The crash set off in October 1987 was a watershed in this as in other perceptions. The few who correctly read that, far from being revered as mentors, were in most cases among the first to be made redundant or quietly retired when the ensuing lack of business forced City firms to retrench. The worst that can respectably be contemplated is now a blip, a short-term correction, best got out of the way fast so values can resume their upward path.

Such thinking is self-fulfilling. Hence the increased tendency for gradual up-trends to be punctuated by short, sharp corrections. Hence also professional pussy-footing over the implications of last week's falls in American bond and stock prices, transferred round the world on Friday.

In such circumstances, the lack of open debate leaves a vacuum in which no one is quite sure what the strength of opposing views really is. Journalists, needing to report something, are reduced to some such phrase as: "Markets are braced for a week of volatile trading." Even that apparently safe bet does not always come home.

That 1987 break has much to answer for. Ever since, markets have tended to be nervous at this time of year, causing several breaks in share prices that have, thankfully, been mere blips. Investors brave enough to buy during the depressed days before the Desert Storm campaign, for instance, have fared notably well in most markets other than Tokyo. There were, however, more useful lessons to be learnt from the events of 1987. Financial markets are linked more closely than they used to be, since the communications revolution spawned huge international flows of investment funds. Currency

markets have therefore become more closely interwoven with interest rates and share prices round the world.

Markets are liable to break and turn when there are international financial/economic imbalances that governments refuse to deal with. If those markets are being sustained by speculative froth, most often in the futures and options markets, convulsions can be expected. In the summer of 1987, there were imbalances between the continental European and American economies that leaders refused to resolve by co-operation at the seven-nation economic summit. The dollar was falling, heading and share prices had risen so fast in New York, London and Tokyo that yields had become too low, historically, compared with bonds. The frothy American economy was out

'The international imbalance has not yet been fully resolved'

of kilter and that is where the storm initially struck.

A comparable imbalance caused unsustainable strains in the summer of 1993, with low interest rates and the beginnings of recovery in America contrasting with high interest rates and recession in continental Europe. Anyone who cared to tap the financial barometer could see a storm was likely. In the event, it broke over European currencies rather than stock markets. Lightning struck the ERM, bringing rises in European asset prices as several currencies devalued and the way was opened for sharp interest rate cuts. Since continental Europe was the area out of step, America and Japan were not affected. Britain, having resolved its own conflict between government policy and financial reality a year earlier, smiled on the sidelines.

International imbalance was not, however, fully resolved. European interest

rates have fallen but continental governments have refused to cut rates to economically appropriate levels, regarding storm damage to the ERM as a battle lost in a war with speculators that they must have the political will to win. Short-term interest rates in Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Italy and France remain particularly high, compared with those in America and Japan. Not surprisingly, American and Japanese money has flooded into European financial assets on the assumption that the imbalance will be resolved in their favour.

Suddenly, a fear has struck. It could work the other way. As the American economy shows signs of gathering strength, interest rates there could turn up before European rates have come much further down, accelerated by the outflow of funds. Even if that does not set a higher floor for European rates, further falls would be accompanied by European currencies weakening against the dollar. The fear arises in weaker form in Britain, where expectations of further cuts in short-term rates are being scaled back.

Conditions are therefore developing in which a break in international stock markets could take place. Fortunately, the pressures can easily be resolved. Unfortunately, while the pressure is worst in American financial markets, the solution lies in Europe, where the authorities may not consider a problem exists. Shades of 1987 in reverse.

There are many ifs and buts. To start with, it is not yet certain that American interest rates will turn decisively up. Nor need that have any permanent effect on share prices on Wall Street after a blip, while the thought takes hold. Share prices are, fundamentally, determined as much by expected trends in profits as by interest rates. Small rises in interest rates from historic lows should not stop shares rising at this stage in an economic upturn. Prices are also heavily influenced by confidence and by the weight of institutional savings.

It would be irrational for good news about the US economy, which made Americans think their interest rates may turn, to damage confidence. Share prices have risen fast, but there is little speculative froth on the 1987 scale. A short-term correction remains the best bet, as institutions temporarily turn off the flow of funds. It could be over already. Then again... well, markets are braced for a week of volatile trading.

LEGAL NOTICES

071-782 7344

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION

NO 009298 of 1993

IN THE MATTER of AETNA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

— and —

IN THE MATTER of WINDSOR LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

— and —

IN THE MATTER of THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ACT 1982

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition (the "Petition") was on the 25th October 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice by the above-named Aetna Life Insurance Company Limited ("Aetna Life") for the sanction of the Court under Section 49 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 (the "Act") to a Scheme ("the Scheme") providing for the transfer to Windsor Life Assurance Company Limited ("Windsor Life") of the whole of the long term business (as defined by Section 1(1) of the said Act) of Aetna Life (other than "Excluded Matters" defined in the Scheme) and for orders making ancillary provisions in connection with the said transfer under Section 50 of the Act.

Copies of the said Petition, the Scheme, a report by an Independent Actuary pursuant to Section 49 of the Act, a report to the board of Aetna Life in relation to the Scheme from the appointed actuary of Aetna Life, a report to the board of Windsor Life in relation to the Scheme from the appointed actuary of Windsor Life, and the Laurie Report (as defined in the Scheme) may be inspected at each of the offices specified in the Schedule hereto during normal business hours for a period of 21 days from the publication of this notice.

The Petition is directed to be heard before

Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on the 8th of December 1993. Any person (including any employee of Aetna Life or Windsor Life) who claims that he or she would be adversely affected by the Scheme may appear at the time of the said hearing in person or by Counsel. Any person who intends so to appear, and any policyholder of Aetna Life or Windsor Life who dissents from the Scheme but does not intend so to appear, should give not less than two clear days' prior notice in writing of such intention or dissent and of the reasons therefor to the Solicitors named below.

Copies of the documents referred to above will be furnished by such solicitors to any person requiring them prior to the making of an Order sanctioning the Scheme on payment of the prescribed charge for the same.

Dated this 8th November 1993

HERBERT SMITH

Exchange House
Primrose Street
London EC2A 2HS.

Ref: 74/C198

Solicitors for Aetna Life
and Windsor Life

THE SCHEDULE

Addresses where copy documents are to be available for inspection

Windsor Life Assurance
Company Limited,
Windsor House,
Telford Centre,
Shropshire TF3 4NB

Aetna Life
Insurance Company Limited,
Aetna House,
2-12 Pentonville Road,
London N1 9QG

Windsor Life Assurance
Company Limited,
9 Victoria Street,
Aberdeen AB1 1XZ

Windsor Life Assurance
Company Limited,
Sophia House,
26 Cathedral Road,
Cardiff CF1 9WJ

Rennie Walker Life & Pensions
(Appointed Representative of
Windsor Life Assurance Company Limited)
14/16 James Street South,
Belfast BT2 7GA

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Buffett's golden dollar touch

AMERICA'S richest man, Warren Buffett, this month demonstrates the flair that helped him build his immense wealth — he is selling one of his oldest investments at a near 400 per cent profit. Buffett, 63, who has an \$8.3 billion fortune under his belt, has never been one to bail out of investments, and his move to reduce a stake in Capital Cities/ABC, one of the four television network broadcasters in America, may be seen as a statement about the current state of the media business. But even after selling a million of the Capital Cities/ABC shares, he retains 2 million, equal to a 14 per cent stake, and remains the largest shareholder of the group. His stake represents half the 2 million shares the company is buying back from shareholders through a Dutch auction priced between \$90 and \$630 a share. The stake was bought eight years ago at \$172.50. Buffett, who drives an elderly Cadillac and lives modestly in Omaha, Nebraska, does allow himself one indulgence — a £4 million private jet called The Indefensible. All the better for making those meetings on time.

Crossed party line

NICK Lancaster, managing director of Malaya Group, the fast-growing motor group, last week added Mann Egerton's Colchester Jaguar/Land Rover dealership to his ever-expanding portfolio. Discuss-



ing the deal with a young regional newspaper reporter, Lancaster explained how he had bought into Malaya last year, with the help of a concert party. The resulting news story began: "The car-mad Lancaster family were today celebrating the launch of their newly-named Jaguar Daimler dealership after a musical re-naming package."

HOW to influence your media contacts... A letter from Gordon Brown MP has just landed on the desk of my worthy colleague, Ross Tlemann... addressed to Ros Tlemann (sic) and beginning: "Dear Ros". At least he didn't sign it: "Love, Gordon".

Market drama

IT IS fast becoming fashionable to write your way out of trouble. Jeffrey Archer did it with Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less. Paul Erdman re-

stored his fortunes with The Billion Dollar Killing, penned in a Swiss prison cell in which he found himself after becoming unwittingly involved in a banking collapse. Now, George Blakely, a stockbroker felled by a series of mishaps that left his once extensive shareholdings valueless and himself the target of an unsuccessful \$10 million lawsuit, is trying to rebuild his fortunes by writing about where it all happened in The Post-War History of the London Stock Market (Mercury Books, £19.99). "It is all fact, not fiction," asserts Blakely of the tome, which is due out on November 16. "There's more than enough drama and excitement in the City without having to make it up." How right he is...

Clements' move

MOORGATE Investment Management, an investment

EIGHT years' lobbying for the 2000 Olympic bid does not appear to have dented the enthusiasm of Bob Scott, left, Manchester's so-called "Mr Olympics" and new non-executive chairman of Piccadilly Radio. Scott, 49, a theatre impresario, says his new job in radio does not exclude him from leading any possible Manchester bid for the 2004 Games. "Quite the contrary, it keeps me in the city and my options open." He will spearhead Piccadilly's bid to renew its eight-year franchise when it is re-advertised next year — the independent station's twentieth anniversary.

trust management company that specialises in UK smaller companies, has poached Jonathan Clements from Lazard Investors. Clements, 31, joined Lazard in 1987 from Whitbread and has focused on the smaller companies sector since 1991.

Sugar and spice

BRITAIN'S caterers are gearing up for a bumper Christmas. Nearly a third expect to spend more in the run-up to Christmas, according to a survey of 2,000 caterers by Lockhart Catering Equipment, a subsidiary of Gardner Merchant. Further, 95 per cent report that Christmas bookings have held steady or increased compared with last year. There is only one note of gloom: hospitals expect their expenditure to remain the same.

JON ASHWORTH

هكذا من الأصل

CBI forecast will deal blow to Chancellor

BY PHILIP BASSETT
AND NEIL BENNETT

THE government's hopes of a sustained recovery from recession are to be dealt a serious blow when one of the key economic forecasts for Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, sharply reduces its estimate of how much Britain's economy is set to grow.

The marked scaling-down in the latest economic forecast from the Confederation of British Industry will be particularly difficult for ministers, since it will be announced five days before Mr Clarke presents his Budget on November 30.

In addition, a survey of Britain's business leaders shows that confidence in the economic recovery is faltering, even though order books and profits are still rising, because of uncertainty about the Budget.

The October business opinion survey from the Institute of Directors shows that the proportion of company directors who are more optimistic about the economy has fallen from 63 to 42 per cent since August. Bosses are also growing less confident about the future of their own companies. Only 56 per cent said their confidence

The economic growth forecast for the calendar year is set to be downgraded, from a 1.7 per cent increase on 1992 to an improvement of only 1.2 or 1.3 per cent.

has risen in the past two months, compared with 64 per cent in the summer.

The gloom is gathering among companies even though more than half report higher profits and higher orders, and more than a third say they are planning to take on additional staff. The main concern mentioned by almost half the 300 business people surveyed was a cash flow shortage, a classic symptom of a slow, fragile recovery.

These figures give the CBI, the IoD and other business lobby groups ammunition in their struggle to persuade the Chancellor not to introduce swingeing new tax increases in the Budget, which could halt and even reverse Britain's tentative economic recovery.

The CBI's forthcoming forecast will be especially awkward since it is to be made by Dr Andrew Sentance, the CBI's economics director and one of Mr Clarke's seven wise men — the team of outside

experts the Treasury uses to provide external estimates on the direction and strength of the UK economy.

When the CBI last published an economic forecast in August, Dr Sentance and his CBI economics team said that the confederation's key overall forecast was for growth in the economy this year of 1.7 per cent. But this figure is set to be revised sharply downward. While CBI economists have not yet fully finalised their forecast, it is likely that they will cut it to 1.3 or 1.2 per cent.

Though the CBI is still forecasting that the economy will grow, its new estimate implies a considerably worse economic performance than the government would like to see, and suggests that recovery is so fragile as to be poised between continuing or halting.

Primarily pushing the CBI's economic forecast down is a gloomy view of the impact of recession in continental Europe, and especially in Germany. CBI economists do not see any prospect of a recovery on the Continent until the third quarter of 1994 at the earliest, and such a late recovery is flattening economic performance in the UK.

CBI analysts believe that while inflation will remain low, tax changes already in train could affect the retail price index, while unemployment will fall only slightly. They question whether any further tax changes Mr Clarke might bring forward in his Budget could put industrial confidence at risk and threaten any upturn.

Meanwhile, the CBI's quarterly survey of smaller manufacturers, published today, shows that employment in the sector has risen in the past four months for the first since the start of 1990. Small businesses, which led the way out of the last recession in the early eighties, are also increasing their investment slightly to match a modest rise in output.

Factory gate prices hold key to market

BY NEIL BENNETT

CITY dealers and investors are hoping that calm will return to the stock market this morning after Friday's 63.4 fall in the FT-SE 100 index. A late rally on Wall Street on Friday night restored some confidence. The financial world's eyes will first be on Tokyo, which begins the week's trading at midnight British time. Most watchers expect the Nikkei index to be boosted by Britain's 18.4 point rise in the Dow Jones industrial average.

In London, the market is expected to be jittery, particularly before publication of October's official factory gate prices in mid-morning. SG

Graham Scarjeant, page 38



Dr Stasiu Labuc's study found men and women executives to have more in common the higher they rise

Success is non-sexist, executive study finds

BY ANGELA MACKAY

DO ambitious and successful women who make it to the top of a large company or organisation achieve success for different reasons than men? It appears not.

A new study of almost 100 executives who have reached the top of the pile suggests there is little to choose between a successful man and an equally successful woman.

Conducted by Dr Stasiu Labuc, a chartered occupational psychologist from Labwick Psychological Assessments, the study of 38 women and 40 men shows that these high-flyers have more in common the higher they rise in the organisation. "Success is non-sexist," according to Dr Labuc. "About two-thirds of those I interviewed and tested were women who were chief executives, managing directors or on the main board."

"They all displayed very similar traits to their male colleagues — arrogance, single-mindedness, aggression, strength, a competitive nature and egotism. Almost all interviewed said they were extremely critical people who did not give their trust easily."

Ninety per cent of those questioned said they hated administrative work and were happy to delegate many of their tasks, but none of the power. Three-quarters had been to university or college and since childhood felt comfortable taking the lead.

Women, however, were found to be more calculated risk takers, more secretive and guarded than men. They were also less volatile and said they were more likely to bottle up professional frustration and take it home, while men were more likely to explode with anger at the office.

Intriguing differences, however, appeared in personal lives. Almost all of the women — 75 per cent of whom have children — had embarked on their second or third marriage and were usually partnered by professionals or men with responsible, demanding jobs.

Almost all of the male executives' wives or partners were passive and did not work for reward or, if they did, held positions junior to their husbands. If they had new partners, they were usually younger than their first wife. Both sexes are likely to suffer similar health problems, however women were more likely to suffer from skin, stomach and bowel complaints.

Consumer credit demand up

BY OUR CITY STAFF

CONSUMERS are venturing back into the high street in ever increasing numbers and borrowing to finance their renewed shopping sprees, according to two surveys on consumer credit published today.

The Finance and Leasing Association's monthly figures show the demand for consumer credit among its members was the best since the start of the recession three years ago. Lending in September reached £1.23 billion, up 35 per cent on a year ago. The surge increased the quarterly lending total to £3.73 billion, a rise of 27 per cent on 1992.

The demand for consumer loans is far outstripping the activity among businesses. Here, lending rose only 7 per cent in September compared with a year ago to £1.39 billion. "The data is supported by figures from Infolink. These show that demand for consumer credit expanded across a broad range of sectors in September.

Queens Moat director was paid almost £2.2m

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

THE full horror of the stricken Queens Moat Houses was revealed over the weekend, when shareholders received copies of the delayed annual report.

The report shows John Williams, a former director and head of the property division, was paid £1 million in 1991 and almost £1.2 million last year. The 1991 payment had not been revealed in the group's accounts for the year.

The 1992 accounts also show that Mr Williams sold the bulk of his shares in the company during 1992. At the start of last year he owned 34,285 7 per cent convertible cumulative redeemable preference shares and 5.03 million ordinary shares. By the end of the year, he had sold all but 1.53 million of his ordinary shares and in February 1993 he sold all his preference shares. The sale was just before the closed period dur-

ing which time directors cannot deal in shares.

Although Mr Williams is not named as the highest-paid director, notes to the 1992 accounts indicate that he was. The notes show the 1991 salary figures were restated in the 1992 accounts "to include a bonus of £0.9 million paid to a former executive director of the company". The accounts explain that this bonus had been capitalised as part of the cost of the company's investment in a subsidiary undertaking which had been acquired from the director in March 1988.

Mr Williams's sale of his property and construction company to QMH was effected in March 1988. The accounts say all such bonuses are now charged to the profit and loss account.

John Baird, former chairman, said yesterday that the payments to Mr Williams

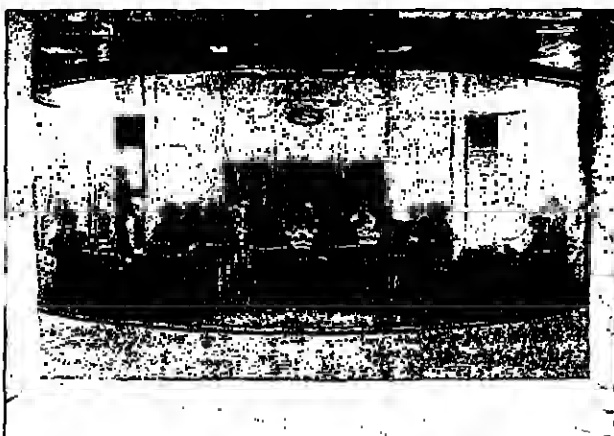
were the final payments due to him under an earn-out formula agreed at the time of the sale of his company to QMH. He said part of the price paid was dependent on profits made by QMH's property division, which Mr Williams headed from January 1988 to December 1992. During this period, the division made profits of £28.5 million, of which £6.5 million was in 1992.

Mr Baird said he had been advised by Mr Williams that he was planning to sell the preference shares "and I confirmed it was in order".

Mr Williams said the preference shares were "shares I had purchased myself. The only reason I sold them was to effect a capital loss. At the time I sold the shares I had no knowledge of the group's finances being as has emerged since. I was never involved in the finance function of Queens Moat Houses".

EBRD shake-up likely to be approved today

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT



The EBRD aims to move closer to its target markets

JACQUES de Larosière, the new president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), is set to secure board approval today for a radical shake-up that should help to restore the tarnished image of the institution.

Only a month after starting work at the bank, M de Larosière, a former head of the International Monetary Fund and ex-governor of the French central bank, has moved swiftly to try to cut costs and make the operations of the EBRD work more closely with its target markets in the former Soviet bloc.

Under Jacques Attali, his predecessor, the EBRD earned the sobriquet of the "glistening bank" because of lavish

spending on its City headquarters and other excesses. The presidential "cabinet" instituted by M Attali, and the source of many of his difficulties, has been discontinued by M de Larosière and the political department is also to be eliminated.

The blueprint that the new president presented to his directors on October 22 will terminate the merchant banking and development banking divisions as separate entities.

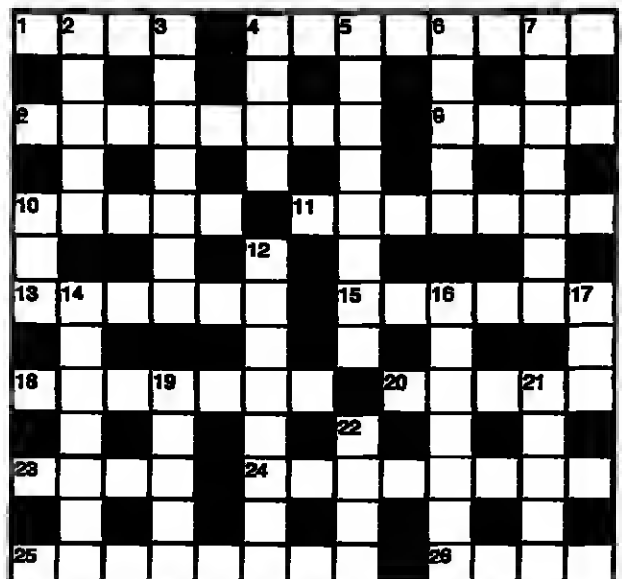
All public and private sector operations will be merged and put under two new departments, one for the northern half of the target region and the other for the southern half.

Merchant and development banking will continue within these new regional

divisions. Ron Freeman, an American who heads merchant banking at present, will be in charge of the northern zone, while Mario Sarcinelli, the Italian head of development banking, will take charge of the southern zone.

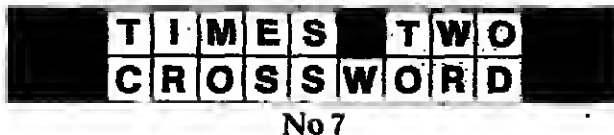
Although staff at the bank have been nervous about the reorganisation, officials have dismissed speculation that as many as 250 jobs could be cut from the current staff of 703. Fewer than 50 jobs are expected to go.

The reorganisation will also seek to give more country focus to the bank's activities, with an increase in use of local staff in Eastern and Central Europe, a measure that should help to reduce costs considerably.



CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 (Special Edition 240 puzzles) £5.74 each, Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords — Book 1 £5.25, Book 2 £5.99, Concise Book 1 £5.99, The Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 13 £4.74 each, Books 14 to 16 £4.25 each, The Sunday Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each, Book 11 £4.25, Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to A&A Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5JW. Return delivery. Tel 081-863 4975 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released for Christmas: The Times Crosswords — Book 17, The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5, The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12, £4.25 each.



**TIMES TWO
CROSSWORD**
No 7

ACROSS
1 Remnant (4)
4 Classical sacrifice (8)
8 Agonies for runners (8)
9 Standard (4)
10 Earlier (5)
11 Charge with treason (7)
13 Outbuilding (4-2)
15 Series of games (6)
18 Local speech (7)
20 Employees collectively (5)
23 Caribbean island (4)
24 Coarse food (8)
25 Accommodation for frail or elderly (4-4)
26 Ceremony (4)

DOWN
2 Unqualified (5)
3 Snub (3,4)
4 Unfenced park boundary (2-2)
5 Fine goat's wool (8)
6 Taut (5)
7 Inexplicable event (7)
10 Mate (3)
12 Music with featured soloist (8)
14 One of refined taste (7)
16 Cruelly kill (7)
17 Service branch (1,1,1)
19 Very insignificant (5)
21 Box (5)
22 Electrical safety device (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 6
ACROSS: 1 Feather bed 7 Halogen 8 Chari 10 Shyness 11 Viper 12 By-pass 15 Breese 17 Azotia 18 Aseptic 21 Dread 22 Equator 23 Adam's apple
DOWN: 1 Folly 2 Angle 3 Honest 4 Recover 5 Example 6 Chess-board 9 Threescore 13 Proceed 14 Stardom 16 Camera 19 Equip 20 Title



WINNING MOVE
By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Short Kasparov, Times World Championship, game 12. What sneaky continuation did Black have in mind here? The official book of The Times World Chess Championship is now available at £7.99. Orders should go to The Times, Raymond Keene Offer, PO Box 11, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire LS24 9XA.



WORD-WATCHING
By Philip Howard

HIERODULE
a. A Guernsey policeman
b. A type of nonsense rhyme
c. A temple slave

INFORTIATE
a. By chance
b. Law books
c. Unhappy

LEPID
a. Lukewarm
b. Charming
c. A moth crysalis

MURCOUS
a. Lazy
b. Without a thumb
c. Dark and dismal

Answers on page 37

WE DO NOT
MAKE LIGHT
OF MARINE
INSURANCE



YOUR INTERNATIONAL
INSURANCE BROKING PARTNER
C E HEATH
133 HOUNDSDITCH LONDON EC3A 7AH
TELEPHONE: 071 234 4000

هكذا من الأصل